

Britain cuts contacts with Russia to show its anger over Afghanistan

Britain is to end high-level and ministerial contacts with the Soviet Union, Lord Carrington told the House of Lords. Announcing a package of measures in response to Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, the

Foreign Secretary said that military exchanges would be cancelled, BBC broadcasts to Russia and Afghanistan would be stepped up and a trade agreement with Moscow would not be renewed when it expired

next month. In the Commons, Mr Francis Pym, the Defence Secretary, told MPs that a £1,000m programme to provide British Polaris missiles with a new warhead was near completion.

Export credits and military links cut

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Ministers last night stepped up pressure on the Soviet Union by saying that the BBC and ITV would be suspended if the Government succeeded in persuading British athletes not to attend.

This was the Government's informal interpretation of the BBC and ITA announcement yesterday, which said they had decided to act jointly in any review of their Olympics coverage. The statement added: "This review would take account of any changes in the nature of the Games or of British participation in them."

The television issue was not included in the Government's formal announcement in Parliament of a previously well-advertised package of anti-Soviet trade and propaganda measures, including the addition of an extra 30 minutes daily of BBC broadcasting to the Soviet Union and its new satellite.

Package 'balanced and realistic'

Although the Opposition broadly approved the measures, Mr Callaghan and Shadow Ministers are privately scathing of the Government's attempts to shift the Olympics, efforts they regard as futile.

Although Ministers described the package as balanced and realistic, there was, after President Carter's bold State of the Union message, a sense of let-down in both Commons and Lords after the cautious announcements made by Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, and his deputy, Sir Ian Gilmour, the Lord Privy Seal.

It was made clear that Britain has no plan for a military call-up or registration, and that no need is seen for reestablishing a permanent British military presence in the Gulf. But Lord Carrington did announce that British land and sea forces, as well as naval forces, would be deployed there periodically.

The main British measures were:

1. Non-renewal of the credit agreement with the Soviet Union which expires next month. Under this agreement, export credits were granted on terms more favourable than those available to other countries. In future, export credit would not be more favourable than the "international consensus" but this was on the assumption that other Western

countries would do the same.

2. Tighter application, with other countries, of Comcon rules for the transfer of sensitive technology to the Soviet Union.
3. No BBC food sales to the Soviet Union to replace, directly or indirectly, supplies denied by the United States. Britain is also pressing for an end to subsidized sales of butter, meat and sugar.
4. Government suspension of high-level and ministerial contacts with the Soviet Union. Military exchanges are to be cancelled including a planned Russian naval visit. The Government will also avoid and discourage cultural and other exchanges, such as a Red Army Choir visit, that might give an impression of business as usual.
5. An increase in BBC external broadcasts to the Soviet Union and Afghanistan.
6. Olympic teams to move the summer Games from Moscow, if necessary, to several other venues, which the Government hopes is "not beyond the capacity of the 104 countries which condemned the Soviet Union in the United Nations". Carrington said: "For the Games now to be held in Moscow would appear to condone Soviet aggression abroad and repression at home."

The Government wanted to make it clear that Britain would not take steps that would hurt itself more than the Russians and, above all, would not cause a war. Ministers do not believe it is 1939.

The statement declared: Both East and West live on one planet. The consequences of serious miscalculation could be disastrous for very many of its inhabitants.

Search for arms agreements

It went on: "It is right that the Russians should feel the strength of our disapproval. That should help them avoid miscalculation in future. But it is also right that we should where possible, continue the search for arms control agreements, commercially justified trade, and other arrangements of mutual benefit."

Although there had to be suspension of normalcy so long as the Russians behaved outrageously, the statement concluded by saying: "In the long run both we and the Russians need a sound East-West relationship."

To complaints of inaction by the Opposition, Mr Pym said: "Continued on page 6, col 4"

Gasps from Labour at £1,000m Polaris plan

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Mr Francis Pym, Secretary of State for Defence, last night announced to the Commons the near completion of a programme costing £1,000m, which will provide Britain's Polaris missiles with a new warhead to maintain the full effectiveness of Britain's strategic nuclear deterrent into the 1990s.

The programme, code-named Chevaline, was begun during the last Conservative Administration under Mr Edward Heath and continued during Mr James Callaghan's Labour Government.

The development had been cloaked in secrecy until yesterday's announcement, which will cause considerable embarrassment to the Labour Government.

Mr Pym was quick to acknowledge the way in which the last Labour Government continued the programme unabated despite continual and strong criticism of Britain's nuclear strategy from a considerable section of the Parliamentary Labour Party.

Major and complex development

It is interesting to note that although Mr Callaghan took the decision to continue the Chevaline programme for a new warhead, the May general election manifesto states that in 1974, the Labour Party renounced any intention of moving towards the production of a new generation of nuclear weapons or a successor to the Polaris nuclear force.

There were gasps from the Labour back benches as the Secretary of State told the House of the cost of the programme. He told MPs that he could not go into detail, but the programme was now at a stage where he could properly make public more information about it.

It involved the "major and complex development" of the front end or warhead of the Polaris missile. It included changes to the fire control system and involved advanced penetration aids and the ability to manoeuvre the payload in space as the missile approached its target.

The main significance of the new development was that it would confuse the enemy defences and enable it more readily to reach its target. Mr Pym explained that the result of the programme was not the same as the multiple independent reentry vehicle system or MIRV, which enabled the war-

head to split up into numerous missiles as it approached the target. He said it was a vital development to Britain's nuclear deterrent.

Coming immediately after Sir Ian Gilmour's announcement of the Government's reactions to the Afghanistan crisis, it seemed clear to many in the House that the decision to announce the new programme was meant as a warning to the Soviet Union that the British nuclear strike force was still capable of providing an effective deterrent.

Mr Pym told the House that the new warhead had successfully passed a series of flight trials and the development was close to completion. Deployment would begin soon thereafter and that would maintain the full effectiveness of Britain's strategic deterrent into the 1990s.

That would enable Britain's Polaris force to remain fully effective for at least another decade. The programme, he said, had been funded and managed entirely by the United Kingdom with the full cooperation of the United States Government, including the use of certain United States facilities for trials and tests.

Some American companies had been employed but most of the work in industry had gone to Britain.

He estimated that the total capital cost of a new system could be in the range of £4,000m to £5,000m at today's prices spread over 10 to 15 years with the peak spending rate coming towards the end of the 1980s. Mr Pym added that the new system would be unlikely to absorb much more than 5 per cent of the defence budget on average.

Without precedent in history

Mr Pym said the Polaris force possessed immensely formidable striking power and was effectively invulnerable to pre-emptive attack. In the decade or more of its operation there had never been a moment's interruption in its standing readiness on station.

Britain and its Nato allies were dealing with possible situations that would be without precedent in history and of unique peril. The Government believed that Britain's nuclear effort made a key contribution to the security of the island, which no other member was able to make.

Parliamentary report, page 8



Vigil in the snow: These schoolgirls show their grief in the snow outside the hospital in Tehran where Ayatollah Khomeini has been taken from his headquarters in Qom. He is undergoing what his aides describe as "a medical check-up".

The girls and other Iranians were reassured later yesterday when the Ayatollah made a radio broadcast from his bed assuring them that he was not seriously ill and urging people to vote in today's presidential elections.

The 79-year-old revolutionary leader was admitted to the intensive care ward of Mehdi Rezaei Hospital on Wednesday for treatment of an unspecified heart ailment. His doctors said that his condition was satisfactory and that there was no cause for concern.

The Ayatollah was well enough to stand and pray, his aide told the crowd of about 600 outside the hospital. "My illness is not important," Ayatollah Khomeini said in a firm but subdued voice during his 10-minute message which was broadcast repeatedly on the state radio.

"My condition is not bad. Perhaps extra formalities have been provided for me which I am not used to," he said, adding that his physicians would do better to pay more attention to poor Iranians living in slums and tents.

In Panama a spokesman for the deposed Shah of Iran said yesterday that the strengthened security forces around him on the island of Contadora were for his protection, not his arrest.

Leading article, page 15

Congress behind Mr Carter but call-up step stirs objections

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Jan 24

The reactions in the United States to President Carter's State of the Union message follow predictable lines. The most vocal opposition comes from survivors of the anti-war movement and pacifists, who object strongly to the proposed reinforcement of the Selective Service system.

That is not conscription, which Mr Carter said he hoped to avoid, but a first step towards it. Opponents are against any obligatory military service, whether or not it involves fighting.

If conscription were reintroduced, men and perhaps women, would be selected by lottery. There would be few of the exemptions that applied during the Vietnam war, and that allegedly enabled the white middle classes to avoid military service but not the poor and the black.

It will be several months, even if Congress approves the suggestion immediately, before registration can be introduced. One question that will have to be resolved, and which should provoke an interesting debate, is whether women should be registered. Feminists, and politicians, are making their support, have advocated treating both sexes equally.

On the more substantial question of approving the "Carter doctrine", opposition has so far been less noisy but it may be much more serious. Many people fear that Mr Carter may be taking the first steps into a military commit-

ment like that undertaken by President Johnson in Vietnam, and they want none of it.

For the moment, at least, he seems to have the support of Congress and public opinion. Larger as the continued destruction of the hostages in Tehran still runs fast and deep, and the invasion of Afghanistan has permitted the President to present a convincing case for greater military expenditures.

The chances are, therefore, that Selective Service and the "Carter doctrine" will be accepted by Congress.

The key phrase in the State of the Union message was a warning to the Soviet Union not to invade the Middle East. "Any attempt by any outside force to gain control of the (Persian) Gulf region will be regarded as an assault on the vital interests of the United States," he said. "It will be repelled by use of any means necessary, including military force."

Whether or not that course of action is approved, there are grave doubts here over whether it can be enforced. Mr Carter said that he was seeking the cooperation of nations in the region in finding bases for American forces, but so far none has been found, except perhaps in Israel and Egypt.

Bases in those countries would not be well placed for action in the Gulf. Furthermore, the United States has neither the aircraft nor the ships to transport large numbers of troops halfway across the world. By contrast, the Russians now have use of the

former British base in Aden, and port facilities in Ethiopia, Somalia and, possibly, the Seychelles.

With the best will in the world, and limitless money, it will be several years before the Americans can produce an adequate army for use in the Middle East. They have examined the possibility of temporarily reducing their forces in West Germany to build up the emergency strike force. Mr Carter wants to set up, but it is not clear that reducing the American armies there would be a good move in a confrontation with the Soviet Union.

Mr Carter also said last night that preventing nuclear war was still the main responsibility of the superpowers. "Especially now, in a time of great tension, observing the mutual constraints imposed by the terms of the Salt treaties will be in the best interests of both countries."

He wants to free the CIA and other intelligence-gathering agencies from excessive restraints, and to protect national secrets from unjustified publication.

He repeated that the West could not continue to do business as usual with the Soviet Union. "The Soviet Union must pay a concrete price for their aggression."

He reaffirmed the United States' commitment to the defence of Pakistan and respected that the crisis proved the importance of reducing the amount of oil the United States imports.

Carter text, page 6
Leading article, page 15

A fortune floats free from sunken freighter

By Anabel Ferriman

The English Channel could be awash with treasure if they do not know whether they were stolen before the ship went down, were retrieved from the wreckage or simply broke loose and floated free, but they think the third possibility is the most likely.

A fisherman found four of the 100 rupee notes, worth £7.50 each in one of his lobster pots and handed them into the police at Weymouth. A police search of the Dorset coastline yesterday morning produced nothing.

It was carrying a secret cargo of new rupee notes for the Seychelles Government and a lesser secret cargo of Range (rovers), diesel train engines, cosmetics, hair spray, Smarties, Polos and Jellitos.

But when the ship was searched by a salvage firm hoping to recover the money, no trace of the notes could be found. Dorset police say they do not know whether they were stolen before the ship went down, were retrieved from the wreckage or simply broke loose and floated free, but they think the third possibility is the most likely.

A fisherman found four of the 100 rupee notes, worth £7.50 each in one of his lobster pots and handed them into the police at Weymouth. A police search of the Dorset coastline yesterday morning produced nothing.

Anyone proposing to take their holiday in the Seychelles would be wasting their time in searching for the notes, however, because the Seychelles Government has been told of the loss by the Crown Agents. The notes have been cancelled.

A spokesman for the P & O's general cargo division, which chartered the ship, said that after the collision they got in touch with their insurers who arranged salvage through the Salvage Association.

They only tried to retrieve the money. They knew the diesel locomotives would be ruined and did not think they could resell the sweets.

Mr Andrew Smith, the captain who took the salvage divers out, said that the men had been told they were looking for boxes of X-ray plates and it was only after seven unsuccessful trips that they learnt the truth.

Mr James Rowlands, managing director of Eurosalvage, Folkestone, the salvage firm which attempted the recovery, said that he thought the money had been washed away. His divers had found many of the ship's doors ripped off their hinges.

"This would indicate that the immense pressure when the ship sank broke the doors and sucked out most of the contents," he said.

Earthquake in California

San Francisco, Jan 24.—A strong earthquake shook a large area of northern California today, rocking buildings in a number of cities and causing some damage. There were reports of minor injuries.

The University of California seismographic station said the earthquake was recorded at 5.8 on the open-ended Richter scale and was centred in the Livermore area, about 40 miles south-east of San Francisco.

—UPI.

Defiant Sakharov protest

Moscow, Jan 24.—Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Nobel Peace Prize winner, and other Soviet dissidents today denounced their Government for suppressing the independence of Afghanistan and called on world opinion to fight for the withdrawal of Soviet troops.

They said that because of the denial of basic human rights at home the Soviet Union posed a threat not just to its own people and its immediate neighbours, but to all mankind.

The bold condemnation of Soviet policies was issued by the Moscow group monitoring Soviet compliance with the Helsinki accords, with which Dr Sakharov has been closely associated, though he is not formally a member. The statement was dated January 21, the day before he and his wife, Yelena, a leading group member, were sent into indefinite exile in Gorky.

Informed sources said Dr Sakharov telephoned friends in Moscow today from Gorky and urged them to go ahead and issue the statement.

In a separate appeal, 18 friends and associates of Dr Sakharov protested against his banishment, describing him as "the conscience of our country."

The Helsinki group's statement on Afghanistan said: "A war is going on in Afghanistan. Afghans are dying, and so are the boys—the sons and grandsons of those who went through the Second World War and of those who never came back."

"A mighty superpower with a population of 260 millions is suppressing the independence of Afghanistan, a nation of 17 million, while the Soviet people claim that our people are giving their unanimous support."

"But in reality people in the Soviet Union have neither useful information, nor the right to express their opinion. Liquidating dissent, page 6"

Chink of light emerges in steel strike

The first sign of a breakthrough in the steel strike has emerged with an improved offer to members of the craft and general unions. But leaders of the main unions, the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, confirmed their decision to extend the dispute to private companies in the face of a move by 16 private steel companies to obtain injunctions against Mr William Sims, general secretary of the ISTC and other ISTC members, to stop the strike being extended.

Page 2

Teachers' 7.5pc

Teachers' leaders accepted an interim pay increase of 7.5 per cent, or £288, whichever is the greater, for 1980-81, as the first part of a comparable award. The teachers' panel of the Burnham Committee, the national negotiating body, earlier rejected a 6 per cent offer. Teachers are demanding a total pay rise of 38.7 per cent.

Page 4

Dearer postal orders

Charges for postal orders and National Girobank services are to be increased. The Post Office informed the Post Office Users' National Council it plans to raise postal order charges early in March by about a third and withdraw the 10p, 15p and 20p denominations. National Girobank charges will go up in April.

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Soviet envoy expelled

Mr Vsevolod Sofinsky, the Soviet Ambassador in Wellington, is to be expelled from New Zealand for giving money to the Socialist Unity Party, a Moscow-aligned faction which broke away from the Communist Party in 1956. Mr Sofinsky, who had been in New Zealand for less than a year, was seen handing over the money by security officers.

Page 5

'World of deception'

Recording an open verdict on Miss Olive St. Barbe, aged 93, who died eight weeks after marrying the male nurse who looked after her at an unregistered private home in West Kensington, London, the West London Coroner said she had lived in a "world of deception".

Page 2



Ulster funeral: Mark Maguire with his aunt Miss Mairead Corrigan (left) and Mrs Betty Williams, leaders of the Ulster Peace Movement, at the funeral of Mark's mother, Mrs Anne Maguire, in Belfast. The death of her other three children in 1976 led to the founding of the movement. A priest said that in reality Mrs Maguire had died four years ago.

Page 4

Staff occupy hospital

Staff at St George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner, London, occupied the buildings as the first step in a campaign by the National Union of Public Employees to save the hospital from its scheduled closure in June. A union representative said a 24-hour picket would be mounted so that equipment and patients could not be transferred.

Page 4

Turkey devalues

Turkey has devalued its currency by almost 50 per cent and slashed import taxes to one per cent in an attempt to revitalize its economy. Over the next few days further harsh economic measures are expected from Mr Suleyman Demirel's minority conservative Government to combat inflation of more than 100 per cent, falling production and soaring unemployment.

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Weddings ruling: Roman Catholic diocese in Sussex imposes six-month waiting period on couples wishing to marry in church.

Page 5

Rhodesia: 'controversial Rhodesian auxiliaries set out to neutralize Patriotic Front.'

Page 7

Audio-visual: A four-page Special Report on the industry and its growing use.

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Classified advertisements: Personal, pages 23, 24; Appointments, 15, 22, 23; Car buyer's guide, 22.

S Africa's dilemma over gold windfall

South Africa is trying to decide what to do with an estimated surplus of £400,000m from the increased price of gold. Government Ministers have said it will be used to repay foreign debts and to continue tax reforms, probably meaning further cuts in income tax. However, there is pressure from the two main opposition parties to spend the windfall on housing, education and training programmes for blacks.

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Letters: On the Moscow Olympics from Lord Monckton of Brecon, and others; on the Archbishop of Canterbury from the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster; the steel dispute from Mr Tom Boardman.
Leading articles: President Carter's message; Shah of Iran; TV franchises.
Features, pages 12, 15
Michael Shanks: Let Euro-MPs use their own brains; Peter Temple-Morris describes why Iran needs a new figurehead; Vincent Brown on the British Library.
Sport, pages 9, 10
Tennis: Mourner loses to McEnroe; Bowls: England win triples championship; Football: Wales advertise for new manager; Rugby Union: Peter West describes behaviour of leading players.
Arts, page 11
David Robinson, reviewing *The Big Fix*, finds in Jeremy Paul Kagan one of Hollywood's most promising young directors; William Munn on *The Merry Widow* at the Coliseum; and Ned Chaillet on Peter Nichol's *Born in the Gardens at the Globe*.
Obituary, page 14
Mr Walpole Lewis, Sir James Woodson.
Business News, page 15-21
Stock markets: The new top stocks were too much for gilt-edged to absorb and securities fell throughout the list. Shares were neglected and the FT Index fell 2.1 to 448.7.
Financial Editor: Best of nerve in the gilt-edged market; Frank Organization gearing comes down again.
Business features: Frank Vogl looks at American breakfast television; Nicholas Hirst on the oil price guessing game; Kenneth Owen discusses artificial intelligence.

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Breakfast television on the menu

By Kenneth Gosling

A nationwide breakfast-time television service could be in operation in two years as part of plans for new television franchises in London.

The new franchises will run from the beginning of 1982, and the only changes in the present television areas are those affecting the Midlands and the south of England, which will become dual areas, each operated by a single company.

Strong pressure from Wales to divide the present Wales and West area were rejected by the authority. It is proposed that the London weekend service will start earlier than at present.

The closing date for applications to operate the franchises will be May 9 and the authority plans further public consultation before awarding the new contracts next winter.

Lady Plowden, chairman of the IBA, made it clear at a press conference that the new franchises will not represent licences to print money.

"The price of entering the race which is now going to open is much higher than ever before and the rewards are likely to be less, certainly in the short term as the fourth channel comes into operation," she said.

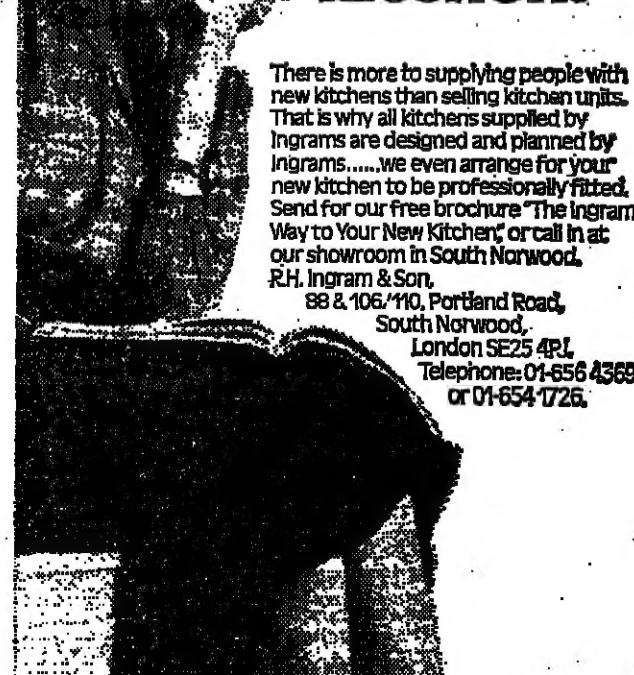
"What we have decided represents a fair compromise between the claims of the public and those of the companies who may be bidding."

Company rentals are to be greatly increased.

The Association of Independent Radio Contractors has expressed reservations about the timing of morning television. Such a change encouraging priority to the service could, it said, adversely affect independent local radio, and especially the new companies, at a sensitive stage in their development.

Report, page 4; leading article, page 13; Business News, pages 17 and 19.

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HOME NEWS

Breakfast-time television and dual regions for Midlands and the South planned by IBA

By Kenneth Gosling

Dual regions in the Midlands and south of England, a new company to operate breakfast-time television nationally, and an earlier changeover between the London weekday and weekend contractors are the main points of the contract particulars for the new commercial television franchises that will run from January, 1982.

Details were published yesterday by the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

The new contracts will be awarded at the end of this year, giving successful contractors a year to complete their practical arrangements. It is assumed that legislation will be passed in good time to enable the final details to be completed.

The Government's broadcasting Bill is expected to be published later this month or early in February. Groups contending for the new franchise areas will be invited to submit applications by May 9.

An IBA statement yesterday set out the authority's reasons for deciding against any further splintering of the regions. Comprehensive consultation with the public, it said, had supported the arguments against endangering the strength of the independent television system as a whole by breaking it up into pieces and weakening its highly valued regional service by reducing the number of areas, as purely financial considerations might have suggested.

The contract particulars also provide for subscriptions to be paid by the new contractors towards the financing of the fourth television channel, which it is hoped will begin broad-

casting under separate IBA contracts. The London weekday subscription, for example, will be just over £11m, the next highest being the North-west at £10.8m, and £9m for the Midlands.

The company revenues will be greatly increased when the new contractors take over and vary from £6.2m for London weekday, compared with the present figure of just under £4m, to £10,000 for the Channel Isles, which is roughly double the present figure.

The authority says that if a breakfast-time contract was awarded, it would apply to the period between 6 and 9.15 am for seven days a week, but with broadcasting likely to start normally at about 7 am. It would be for a service consisting mainly of news, information and current affairs.

Applicants would be asked what their relationship, if any, would be with Independent Television News and about their ideas for introducing regional elements into the service.

A breakfast-time contractor would have to pay a rental to the authority of at least £500,000 to start with, that being subject to variations at two-yearly intervals in the light of results.

It is not foreseen that a breakfast-time contractor would have any early part to play in the fourth channel, and as long as this is the case no fourth channel subscription is likely to be paid for it, the authority said.

The new dual regions will be known as East and West Midlands and South and South-east England and will be in addition to the present dual region for Wales and the

West. One company will be appointed to run each of the dual regions and will be required to provide a separate studio centre in the eastern part of the areas.

The IBA refers to the present Midlands region, run by ATV, as a large area and says the decision whether to split it had been among the main questions for the authority in planning the post-1981 contracts.

The establishment of a separate East Midlands contract area would be a high risk gamble. The authority had considered with great care the argument that it was a gamble that would be contractors should be allowed to take and that a separate contract area should be advertised to see whether any applicant believed it could be viable.

The changeover time between the London weekday and weekend contractors will be advanced from 7 pm on Fridays to 5.15 pm.

Applicants for the London franchises are to be invited to consider how best to achieve an improved service of regional news throughout all seven days of the week, possibly on a common basis.

Discussing its reasons for not separating the west of England region from Wales, the authority says that from Wales it had been argued that the Welsh language, culture and commercial life would be better served if the link with England was severed.

In the west of England the cultural differences between the two parts of the region had been similarly emphasized and voices raised against what was seen as a possible disproportionate

allocation of resources to the programme services for Welsh viewers.

In considering the different courses of action the authority had been concerned above all with the quality of programme services; but it pointed out that the contractor in Wales would have a commitment to produce a certain amount of Welsh language programming for the fourth channel as well as English language programming for ITV 1.

The requirements are costly and the blunt financial truth is that a wholly separate Welsh company bordered by a separate English company in the South as well as in the North could not expect to generate sufficient revenue to meet them.

If Wales was going to receive, whether on one channel or two, the service its importance warranted, it needed to form part of an area larger than that of Wales alone. The IBA believed the continued combination of Wales and the west of England as a dual region was the best solution.

The contribution the new companies will have to make to the fourth television channel can be set off against the television levy, the amount the authority collects from companies on behalf of the Government.

According to present thinking, the subscriptions would count as a form of programme expenditure, and the levy is charged on companies' profits after expenditure on programmes.

Leading article, page 13

Labour bid to delay benefit Bill fails

By Pat Healy
Social Services
Correspondent

A determined attempt by Labour MPs to delay the committee stage of the Social Security Bill until the Government discloses what it will do about the shortfall on the November pensions increase was finally defeated yesterday.

After nearly five hours of debate, the standing committee on the Bill approved a procedural motion to begin discussion, by 11 votes to nine.

Labour MPs strongly denied yesterday that they were delaying any discussion of the Bill.

They were demanding that Clause 1, which seeks to change the basis on which pensions are raised from a link with both earnings and prices to a prices only one, should be deferred until it was clear what the Government intended to do about the shortfall.

Mr Frank Field, Labour MP for Birkenhead, said that the shortfall affected millions of people who were losing a total of £150m a year because the Government had underestimated the amount by which earnings would rise. Labour governments had shown that they could not be trusted on that issue, and there was even less reason to trust a Tory one.

"We are talking of those at the bottom of the heap of our society, the very poorest," Mr Field said. "We are talking about how many extra leaves of bread families can buy."

Metropolitan councils oppose block grants

By Christopher Warman
Local Government
Correspondent

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities yesterday promised outright opposition to the Government's proposals to introduce a new block grant system for local government finance.

Although Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced concessions on the proposals, those who keep their spending down and those who appear to be overspending.

The AMA also released yesterday the text of a joint letter to Mr Heseltine last week from themselves, the Association of County Councils and the Association of District Councils.

In a strongly worded appeal to the Secretary of State to think again, the letter states: "The block grant proposals will markedly increase central interference in local authority rating decisions."

They put "almost unlimited power in the hands of any Government" to alter the distribution of the total grant, and to be highly selective about individual authorities' grant entitlements.

Accepting the Government's role in determining overall public spending, the associations believed that changes could be made to the grant system broadly to achieve the Government's objective while preserving "that element of freedom to local government to manage its own affairs which is essential to the maintenance of local democracy."

Sir Godfrey Taylor, the chairman, told a meeting of the AMA that as soon as the Bill was introduced they would be briefing their vice-presidents in Parliament, and he asked all member authorities to lobby their MPs in an attempt to persuade the Government against implementing the block grant.

Sir Godfrey said Mr Heseltine had argued that the only principle with which he was concerned was to break the connection between spending and getting more grant.

"There are ways that this can be done under the present grant system without going in for the detailed prescribing of the levels of expenditure by each local authority in the

Hospital is 'occupied' by union members

By Roger Berthoud

"Occupied. Save St George's. Defend the NHS," a large white and black banner flying from the scaffolding above the entrance to St George's Hospital, at Hyde Park Corner, London, proclaimed yesterday.

The reality on the ground was rather less dramatic. In an attempt to save the hospital from its scheduled closure in June, Mr Alan Ellis, branch secretary at St George's of the National Union of Public Employees (NUPE), yesterday telephoned the hospital's administrator, and said: "The union have taken the decision to occupy the hospital."

"This means the staff will now have control over what comes in and goes out of the hospital. There will also be a 24-hour picket. We are trying to stop you transferring equipment and patients. We want to work."

Mr Ellis, an assistant head clerk, explained later that despite the announcement, the 200 NUPE members at the hospital were working normally, and the patients, who also number about 200, were being looked after as usual.

The move had been made because staff morale was low, and because there had been reports of the hospital being sold to the private sector.

Mr Lusby, of the Merion, Sutton and Wandsworth Area Health Authority, said the closure of the hospital has been planned for years, and was linked to the opening of the first phase of the rebuilding of St George's Hospital at Tooting, London.

Admission of patients to the new wing at Tooting would begin shortly. The principle of the transfer had been the subject of full consultations, and had not been opposed by the community health councils.

It had led to a successful outcome because of the financial difficulties of the district health authority. Some alternative facilities had meanwhile been arranged at the Brompton Hospital in Fulham.

Mr John Parkes, consultant cardiac surgeon at St George's, said he thought the medical staff there had accepted that the hospital would close. But they felt the way it was being closed was disruptive to clinical work and to patients.

Mr Parkes said the unit, for example, had to go to the Brompton Hospital for six months, and would have to reduce its services by half. The administration was also being uncooperative about maintaining the surgical services. Some of the staff were being sent to St James's Hospital, at Bath.

Mr Michael Knight, consultant surgeon in the biliary, pancreatic and liver disease unit, said the authority's proposals meant the splitting of specialist medical staff. "The authority have totally ignored all medical advice," he said.

Mr John Weaver, of the South Coast Thames Regional Health Authority, and Mr Lusby both emphasized that the rebuilt St George's at Tooting was to be an important teaching hospital in a big catchment area. There had not yet been any negotiations over the Hyde Park Corner site.

Teachers accept pay offer

By Diane Geddes
Education Correspondent

Teachers' leaders yesterday accepted an offer of a 7.5 per cent pay increase, backdated to January 1, as part of the award expected to be made when the Clegg Commission on pay comparability produces its report.

Employers and union officials on the Burnham Committee, the national negotiating body on teachers' pay, reached agreement last night after a meeting lasting more than eight hours.

The teachers had earlier rejected a 6 per cent offer.

When the Clegg Commission announced earlier this month that it would not be able to produce an interim report, the teachers asked for an immediate 10 per cent increase on March 1, 1979, salaries, equivalent to 9.2 per cent on present salary levels.

Yesterday's offer includes a payment of £280, if that is more than 7.5 per cent on a teacher's salary. The teachers had been promised that they would be paid the first part of any award arising out of the expected Clegg report on January 1, 1980, and the rest on September 1, 1980.

The teachers are seeking a total rise of 33.7 per cent, of which yesterday's agreement represents 16.5 per cent.

Stephen Cohen of "The Times Educational Supplement" writes: "The first results of the Clegg commission's comparability study on teachers' pay are so 'wildly erratic' that they cannot be used for their present purpose. The commission has asked the firm of management consultants which devised the job comparison exercise to try again."

In the meantime, Professor Hugh Clegg, chairman, and four commissioners are embarking on a round-Britain tour of 20 schools and colleges to see at first hand exactly what teachers do for their money.

Professor Clegg has told teachers' leaders that if the new job-for-job comparison study does not produce reliable results a decision will be reached on more traditional lines by considering in closer detail the evidence submitted by unions, employers and government.

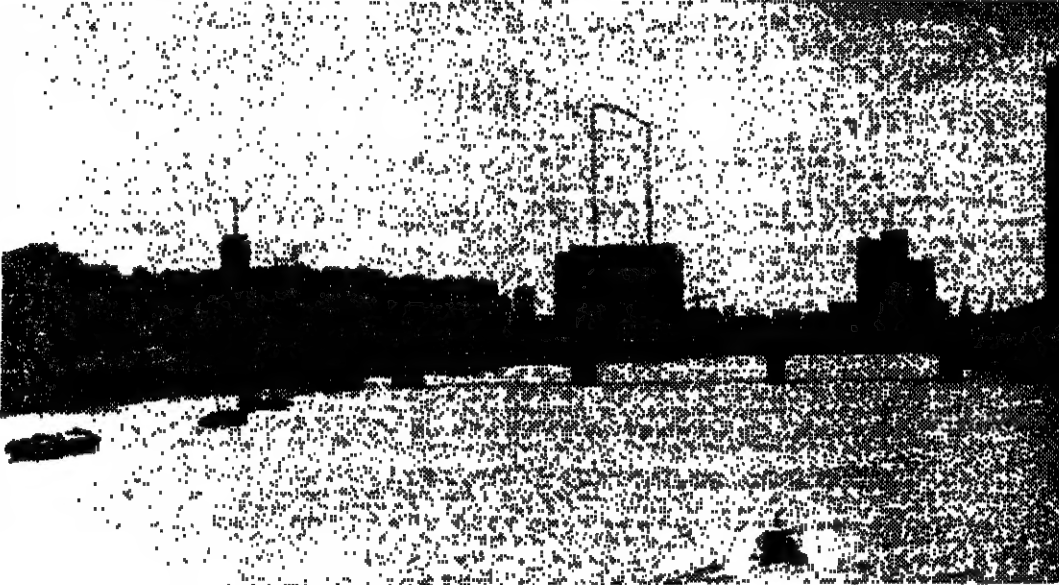
If the study was used in its present form, some teachers would get 70 per cent rise, others would get 5 per cent, a few would have their pay cut.

The commission is confident that more reliable results will be produced from the second stage of the exercise.

Inbucan/AIC, the consultants hired by the commission, said that although some degree of eccentricity was foreseen, it was not expected to be so big.

The difficulties have arisen in the lists of jobs drawn up by judging panels. Sixty occupations, 40 of them in teaching and 20 in other areas of work, have been placed in order of worth by the judges.

The orders by rank for primary and secondary school teachers are published in the Times Educational Supplement today.



"Thames giant" defended: Proponents and supporters of the planned 500 ft office block on the south bank of the Thames, beside Vauxhall Bridge, held a press conference yesterday to answer what they called misleading and ill informed criticisms (our Planning Reporter writes).

Sir Peter Shepherd, professor of architecture and environmental design at Pennsylvania University and a former president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, described the

design of the building as probably one of the most distinguished since the Second World War. Its position and relative height are indicated in the photograph, taken from Westminster Bridge looking upstream.

The Vauxhall site was suitable for a tall building because it had a wide expanse of water in front of it, and an expanse of roads, railways, derelict sites and indifferent buildings on its other three sides. "It looks like the end of the earth", he said.

Fees shock for overseas students

By Our Education
Correspondent

Some overseas students will have to pay fees next year that are six times higher than their present ones, according to a study by the Education Commission, which has decided to charge the minimum fees recommended by the Government for overseas students, which vary from double to five times present levels.

Despite those huge increases, demand from overseas students for places at British universities remains remarkably high. Figures released yesterday by the University Central Council on Admission (UCCA) show that applications to undergraduate courses are 12 per cent down on last year, but only 4 per cent down on 1977.

However, many applications will have been made in ignorance of the Government's decision last November to recommend minimum fees for

overseas students of £2,000 for an arts course, £3,000 for a science course and £5,000 for the clinical year of courses in medicine, dentistry and veterinary science. Fees this year are £940 for all undergraduates, and £1,230 for post graduates.

The recommended minima represent the full economic cost of the courses in the cheapest university. In many universities costs are higher, but most are nevertheless deciding to charge the minimum fees in order, no doubt, to attract the maximum number of overseas students.

Universities have been predicting that the new fees could lead to a drop of between three-quarters and a quarter of their normal overseas student intake, and that would mean a severe and possibly even disastrous loss of income.

Oxford University has decided to stick to the Government's

recommended minima except for its arts courses, for which it will charge £2,200. Cambridge, like many other universities, has yet to make a final decision but is expected to adhere to the minima for arts and science.

Most of the London University colleges, including the London School of Economics, under a third of whose students come from overseas, have likewise decided to charge the minimum fees, as have Bristol, City University and Essex.

Manchester University Institute is to charge £2,500 for arts and £3,500 for science; Brunel is to charge £2,600 for arts and £3,900 for science; and the Cranfield Institute of Technology has decided to charge fees varying from £3,000 for non-technological courses to £5,000 for courses in aeronautics.

Board games for the bored commuters a new line

By Penny Symon

Midlands businessmen commuting to London by rail next month will not be allowed to doze quietly over their newspapers. British Rail, introducing "in-train entertainment", will be urging them to play cribbage, draughts and other board games throughout their journey.

The 7.45 am from Northampton, returning from Euston at 5.23 pm, has been chosen as the first "game train". In five coaches, British Rail will overprint a games board on to standard rail car tables.

If commuters react favourably, the scheme will be extended to trains from King's Cross to Scarborough, so that British Rail can assess whether families like the idea.

Instructions will be printed on the tables, and a "play kit" of cards, counters and dice will be available from buffet car staff, and at station bookstalls, for 70p.

This attempt to change a train into a hive of dice-throwing and card-shuffling activity is a result of discussions between Mr Andrew Lauder, managing

director of Waddingtons Playing Card Company, and Mr Harry Reed, British Rail's London Midlands regional divisional manager.

"The games will generate a whole new atmosphere on trains and make rail travel even more enjoyable and fun for all," Mr Reed said. "We hope to extend it across the network in due course. Nothing quite like this has been tried anywhere in the world as far as we know."

Mr Lauder makes regular business trips from Leeds to London, and usually carries a game with him. Fellow passengers are urged to join in.

The two new games for the train are four-up, which is a board game with dice, and a variation on the board game of snakes and ladders.

The "game train" begins on February 11. It is a far cry from the days when British Rail would warn passengers travelling from Waterloo to Ascot and Epsom on race days to beware of professional card-sharps waiting to pounce.

Open verdict on concert pianist of 22

An open verdict was recorded yesterday by Mr John Dodds, the East Sussex Coroner, on Terence Judd, aged 22, the concert pianist, described by his teachers as "a man of extraordinary talent" whose body was found at the foot of Beachy Head, Sussex, on December 23.

He disappeared from home in London on December 16, only a few days before he was to have begun a Russian tour.

The coroner, sitting at Eastbourne, said it was difficult to give a hard and fast verdict. Mr Judd left home after lunch on December 16 and it was found he had bought a one-way rail ticket to Eastbourne, and been recognized by a ticket collector at Victoria station, London.

Mr Dodds said: "He knew Eastbourne and the Downs and he went there suffering from a slight depression. Obviously a man of his profession would suffer a certain amount of strain with his ardent practising to keep him at the top. The country, particularly the musical world, is much the poorer for his passing."

Mrs Valerie Suchet-Kaye, a neighbour, said she saw Mr Judd after he left his home and they talked about general family matters and his forthcoming Russian tour. He was looking forward to it and his manner gave no hint of depression.

'Psychic power' of twins fails to save zoo animals

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

The psychic powers of Mr George and Hugh Palmer, identical twins, did not allow for the economic depression for they can no longer afford the cost of winning their park at Barry, which is Wales's only animal zoo.

The brothers, who are offering the 10-acre site for development at about £75,000, admitted yesterday that they can no longer provide a safe home for their lions, tigers, leopards, monkeys and reptiles.

They claim that their psychic powers enable the mo train their animals using their extraordinary vibrations.

Mr George Palmer said: "Most people think we are cranks. But it really works. We can let our lions and tigers lie on our chest without being mauled because our psychic powers give us an understanding of what the animals are feeling. Most trainers would not have."

As though to prove the point, Mr Palmer is trying to keep an 18ft python alive during the cold weather by taking it to bed with him.

Smaller animals such as guinea pigs and lizards were given away as pets to children.

"We hope to sell the zoo as a going concern," Mr Palmer said. "Whatever happens, there is no question of having the animals destroyed."

Synod motion calls for a debate on homosexuality

By Our Religious Affairs
Correspondent

Opponents of a more liberal church policy on homosexuality are expected to try to persuade the General Synod of the Church of England next month to condemn by implication an official report which departs from the traditional teaching. A motion has been tabled calling for an early debate on the issue, a tactic that is being interpreted as a way of cutting short uncertainty on where the Church of England stands.

The report at issue was prepared by a working party of the Board for Social Responsibility, and caused considerable controversy even before it was released.

The board published a state-

ment separating itself from some of the working party's recommendations, but it was not intended to bring the two documents to the attention of the general synod until a period of digestion had passed, an interval which the more liberal party hoped would see a growing tolerance towards homosexuality.

The homosexuality issue has become one of the most keenly felt controversies in Anglican circles, and those advocating an early debate are said to feel that uncertainty should be resolved as soon as possible. The

Jury clear TV executive of car murder

The jury also found him not guilty of the manslaughter of Miss Uren last May. He was awarded his costs by Mr Justice Stocker.

Mr Gardner said he put up with outbursts of temper from Miss Uren, who, he added, often asked him, because he loved her, she died when she leapt at him "like a polecat" as they were driving to his home in Southampton from an evening out.

He grabbed her by the throat and held her at arms' length. When she was limp, he realized what had happened and tried to kill himself.

16 top bridge pairs in championship

By Our Bridge
Correspondent

Sixteen of the world's top bridge pairs, representing 11 different countries, are competing in The Sunday Times pairs championship in London, acknowledged as one of the world's prestige events.

Ten world champions are in the field, which has representatives from Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Egypt, England, Holland, Italy, Scotland, Sweden, Switzerland and Venezuela.

Gabriel Chagas and Pedro Paulo Assumpcao, of Brazil, the Olympic champions, are defending the title. Their strongest challenge is likely to come from North America, represented in four of the partnerships.

Only two British pairs have been invited. They are last year's runners-up, Tony Friday and Claude Rodriguez, of London, and Bernard Shenton and Victor Goldberg, of Glasgow.

Omar Sharif, the film actor, partnered by Paul Chemla, of France, will be hoping to improve on his fourth place last year.

The tournament, which started last night, is being played at the Hyde Park Hotel, with sessions today at 8.30 pm and at 2.0 pm and 8.30 pm tomorrow, with the final session on Sunday at 2 pm.

Tragic Belfast mother 'died four years ago'

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

Mrs Anne Maguire died in reality died nearly four years ago of a broken heart, her priest told a packed Roman Catholic church at her funeral in Belfast yesterday.

In the summer of 1976 three of her four children were killed by a car driven by an injured IRA man trying to escape the Army; he too died.

The children, Joanne, Andrew and John, were buried from the church in which yesterday's service was held, St Michael the Archangel, a short distance from where the tragedy happened, in Finaghy Road North. The Peace People movement sprang up in a spontaneous and emotional response to the tragedy; tens of thousands of people were in-

volved and a fortune was given.

Mrs Maguire died at her home on Monday from wounds inflicted with a carving knife.

Miss Mairead Corrigan, the peace movement leader and Nobel Prize winner, read the first lesson, and Mrs Maguire's husband, Mr Jackie Maguire, the second. Father James Kelly, describing the burden she bore, said: "The horrific death of her little children and her own injuries; the long physical drive back to fitness; the emotional stress that drove her to try to find peace in a new life in New Zealand; and the consistent heartbreak that made her return to Northern Ireland to where her children died. A broken heart was the cause of her death. She died four years ago."

Former waiter cleared over girls' earnings

Salvador Vella, aged 68, a former head waiter, was cleared by a jury at Knightsbridge Crown Court, London, yesterday of living off the earnings of prostitutes working as hostesses at Churchill's Club, in the West End.

Judge Morton directed the jury to acquit Mr Vella after submissions by his lawyer, because of insufficient evidence.

Judge Morton said Mr Vella, of Marlborough Terrace, St John's Wood, London, had been living off his wages as an employee of Harry Meadows, aged 63, of Queen Street, Mayfair, who owns Churchill's Club, and his son, Andrew, aged 36, of Chesterfield Gardens, Westminster, have pleaded guilty to living off immoral earnings.

The trial continues today.

Lords refuse Khashoggi plea

Mrs Soraya Khashoggi, former wife of Mr Adnan Khashoggi, a Saudi Arabian financier, lost her attempt yesterday to stop the Daily Mirror from publishing disclosures of her private life.

Three Law Lords refused her leave to appeal to the Lords against a Court of Appeal refusal to continue the ban on publication.

Air crash deaths up 32% last year

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

A total of 1,267 passengers were killed in 20 big airline accidents last year, a 32 per cent increase on the 962 deaths in the previous year. That is shown by figures collated by Flight International, the London aviation journal, published today.

There were 20 accidents, compared with 27 in 1978, but the increase in the number of people who died was "out of line" with traffic growth, which the International Civil Aviation Organisation has estimated for last year at 10 per cent over 1978. The total passengers carried by the world's

airlines probably exceeded 900 million.

Last year's worst accidents involved a DC-10 which crashed at Chicago on take-off with the loss of all 13 crew and 259 passengers, DC-10 in Assam, which all 20 crew and 237 passengers were lost, and two Aeroflot Tu 134s which collided in mid-air with the loss of 173 people.

The magazine says that the year was dominated by the DC-10 accident at Chicago on May 25 when the left engine and pylons assembly fell off an American Airlines DC-10 just after take-off.

"Chicago showed, as had such previous disasters as Tenerife and Paris, that acci-

dent investigation can quickly become clouded by the commercial efforts of interested parties to avoid liability.

The instant recognition of the "broken bolt" theory by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) was an indication that the whole United States civil aviation industry wanted a quick answer to save its conscience.

The magazine says that first reports of the crashes of DC-10s in the Antarctic and at Mexico City indicated that the aircraft were at fault. "In practice, enough has been published about these accidents for the aircraft to be wholly exonerated from blame. Human, rather than technical, fallibility will carry the responsibility."

Budget review on Scots theatre

Proposed budgets for a new Scottish theatre company will be considered by the Scottish Arts Council in April, Mr Alexander Dunbar, the council's director, said yesterday.

He said the council was not yet committed to the scheme, and its decision would depend particularly on the size of its government grant for 1980-81. He said the new company would be an independent body. "It is not the council creating its own touring company."

Fire damages opera house

From Our Own Correspondent
Belfast

The Belfast Opera House, which was to have reopened in April after extensive renovation, was damaged by fire early yesterday and is not expected to be in full production before September.

The building was bought by

مكزاتن الهميل

HOME NEWS

Brighton Catholics to wait six months before they can marry

By Clifford Langley
Religious Affairs
Correspondent

In an innovation that may be adopted elsewhere, the Roman Catholic diocese of Arundel and Brighton has imposed a six-month period of waiting on couples wishing to marry in church. The present rule requiring six weeks' notice has been changed to allow time for a preparation course for engaged couples.

Increasing concern at the divorce rate which has not been met by the Roman Catholic Church in Britain, is underpinned by the measure. The Bishop of Arundel, and Brighton, the Right Rev. Cormac O'Connell, said it was hoped that a preparation period would "enable couples to understand fully what they were doing in entering into Christian marriage". He hoped it would improve the quality of marriage generally.

The Roman Catholic bishops of England and Wales are reviewing their rules on marriage, but further experiments such as that at Arundel and Brighton are not expected until after the Synod of Bishops.

meets in Rome in the summer to discuss the whole issue.

According to the latest available figures, Roman Catholic marriages make up about 10 per cent of the total in the country. Separate statistics for divorce are not kept, but Roman Catholic marriage experts are increasingly concerned at what appears to be a growing tendency to divorce.

Father Matthew McInerney, of St Mary's Church, Brighton, one of the 119 parishes that are taking part in the scheme, said: "Too many marriages are breaking up and we hope this will prepare young couples for the realities of marriage. Many youngsters have a romantic idea of marriage but do not realize its pitfalls."

At present some preparation is given to couples by priests in the six months period of notice now required, and this will be extended to include talks by doctors, lawyers, and older married couples. The Catholic Marriage Advisory Council is arranging the talks.

The six months rule could be set aside in urgent cases, on special application, and the acceptable reasons would include pregnancy.

Soliciting 'should be made legal'

By Our Home Affairs
Correspondent

Soliciting should no longer be a criminal offence, the National Association for the Prevention of Prostitution (NAPP) has told the Criminal Law Revision Committee in evidence published today.

But if it remains an offence, then that should be more narrowly defined, made non-injurious and apply also to male kerb-crawlers.

The association adds: "We urge that serious consideration be given to an idea that has been put forward by the board of visitors of Holloway Prison, that a temporary ban should be made on the imprisonment of prostitutes for an experimental period."

It finds it not surprising that groups and organizations involved in the prison service should be favourably disposed towards a change in the law on soliciting.

"In the experience of Dr Megan Ball, governor of Holloway, prison falls to direct prostitutes into other ways of making a living; on the contrary, prostitutes may well exert a recruiting influence on the many young prisoners in Holloway."

The association also points out that the Prison Officers Association has said: "They seem to be able to sail through their sentence and so on doing what they have always done. Prison is not going to touch them."

Proposals for reform of the 1959 Street Offences Act (Nacro, 169 Chappam Road, Nacro, SW9 0PU).

1m 'Queen's Chinese' as UK citizens

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

There may be between a million and 1,500,000 persons of Chinese descent ("Queen's Chinese") who may have a claim to United Kingdom citizenship, but are almost certainly ineligible for it, according to a report by the Home Office's Commonwealth Office frontbench spokesman, says in a letter to Lord Bethell.

The letter does not mean, however, that they have an automatic right of citizenship. Nor do people from other places mentioned in the letter, who represent sizeable numbers with a possible entitlement to United Kingdom citizenship.

The other Commonwealth citizens who may come to Britain as students or visitors and under other such headings. But controls on the entry of United Kingdom passport holders were devised at the time of the Commonwealth Immigrants Act, 1962, in the shape of special vouchers, when the government feared a sudden influx from East Africa.

The Home Office said yesterday that the vouchers were introduced specifically to take account of difficulties that certain United Kingdom passport holders were undergoing in their country of residence.

Giving the latest estimates of United Kingdom passport holders, subject to immigration control residing in certain countries overseas, Lord Bethell gave the following figures: India, 39,000; Kenya, 17,000; Malawi, 4,500; Malaysia, 30,000; Morocco, 457; Pakistan, 1,700; Sri Lanka, 40; Tanzania, 9,000.

Council on Tribunals asks for greater powers

By Marcel Berlins
Legal Correspondent

The Council on Tribunals, the body which supervises and advises on the workings of more than 50 administrative tribunals, has asked to be given greater statutory powers to enable it to do its work more effectively.

In a report on its own functions, the Council says that there is a "significant role for an effective, independent, statutory advisory body in the field of administrative adjudication, with both detailed knowledge and more general insight linked in a systematic manner."

The need was especially important given the emphasis being placed on the protection of individual rights.

The council recommends that it should have the right to be consulted whenever any legislation was being drafted which affected its jurisdiction. At present, the council was in fact sometimes consulted on planned legislation, but there was no obligation on Government departments to do so.

When the council's opinion has not been accepted, the minister concerned should be obliged to disclose that fact when introducing legislation before Parliament, the council proposes.

It also wants its role as a general statutory advisory body over the whole area of administrative tribunals to be confirmed unambiguously by law.

The Functions of the Council on Tribunals (Stationery Office, £2.50).

The Annual Report of the Council on Tribunals, 1978/79 (Stationery Office, £2.75).

Police criticized for dropping student charges

From Our Correspondent
Oxford

Mr John Mackay, chairman of Oxford magistrates, criticized the police yesterday for withdrawing charges against six undergraduates involved in a street clash.

The undergraduates were bound over to keep the peace after the police offered evidence against them on charges of threatening behaviour.

Mr Mackay said: "We find it difficult for the police to conduct behaviour which they condemn involved damage to public property, the abuse of public services and even the attendance of a police dog."

Mr Edward Liddell, for the prosecution, said a mock battle developed when undergraduates from Jesus and Lincoln colleges tried to get into Exeter College and were repulsed by water bombs. Firemen answered a hoax call and found themselves in the middle of a fight.

The defendants were Richard Barton, aged 18, Christopher Bailey, aged 19, Matthew Barnes, aged 20, Christopher Andrews, aged 18, and David Stewart, aged 19, all of Exeter College, and David Murdoch, aged 21, a medical student at St. John's Hospital, London.

Lakeland farmer blames leaking pipes for floods

From Our Correspondent
Whitehaven

The Department of the Environment inquiry into plans to raise the levels of two lakes was told yesterday how land around Ennerdale, in the Lake District, was being affected by leaking water pipes. One farmer said a pipeline on his land was leaking from every joint, causing floods.

The inquiry, at Whitehaven, in its seventh day, was hearing evidence from objectors.

The farmer, Mr James Rickaby, of The Mill, Ennerdale, said: "The pipeline is leaking from every joint, and it is flooding areas of my land."

The inquiry is into two planning applications. One involves the North West Water Authority, which wants to raise the level of Ennerdale Water, providing more water for industrial use. In the other British Nuclear Fuels Ltd wants to raise the level of West Water, giving more water for the Windscale nuclear plant.

Mr Rickaby said that if the Ennerdale scheme went ahead he did not think he would be able to live there.

The authority promised a report on the pipeline.

WEST EUROPE

Men named in Spanish magazine shot dead

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, Jan 24

For the second time this month, a man has been shot dead after a magazine article named him as a right-wing extremist in the Basque country.

The owner of a bar in Baracaldo, near Bilbao, Señor Alfredo Ramos was one of 19 people named in a two-part series about right-wing extremists in the mass circulation Spanish weekly *Interviu*. He was kidnapped and shot dead, presumably by Basque separatists, according to reports published here today.

Another man named by the magazine, Señor Jesus Garcia, was the first Basque terrorist victim this year. He was shot dead after being identified by the magazine as the organizer of ultra-right "uncontrolled commando units" operating in the Basque region.

The accusations against alleged right-wing activists were contained in articles prepared with the cooperation of a former member of the national police, which appeared last December.

The same articles also named seven bars in the Basque provinces as gathering places for fascist militants, and three places allegedly used as firing ranges and training camps for terrorists of the right.

The latest victim, Señor Ramos, was described by the magazine as a "Galician" who gets his kicks out of taking part in clashes with *abertzales* (Basque patriots).

He had written to several Bilbao newspapers after the article appeared, as well as to the magazine, claiming: "I am innocent in every regard of everything which has been said about me. The magazine has not yet published his letter protesting against its story about him."

Shortly before 3 pm yesterday two hooded men entered his bar in Baracaldo, the same town where a bomb in another bar killed four people last Sunday.

They ordered his wife, daughter and niece, to refrain from calling police and they forced him to get into a waiting car and leave with them.

Half an hour later a Bilbao newspaper received an anonymous telephone call telling where his body could be found.

No organization made any immediate claim of responsibility for the killing, but police suspect that the movement ETA, the movement killed one alleged police informant last Saturday and seriously wounded another last Monday.

A recent communiqué from the organization said it would continue to "kill all the grasses and parallel police until they decide to abandon southern Euzkadi". (In Basque terms this means Spanish Basque provinces, and northern Euzkadi, refers to the French Basque departments).

EEC and Yugoslavia speed up talks on new trade agreement

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Jan 24

The EEC and Yugoslavia are to resume negotiations next week in Brussels on a new trade agreement designed to improve the access of Yugoslav industrial and agricultural goods to Community markets and reduce the country's heavy trade deficit with the West.

The negotiations are to be conducted by Herr Wilhelm Haferkamp, the EEC Commissioner for External Affairs, and Mr Stojan Andov, the Yugoslav Minister for External Trade.

It is hoped that the new agreement will be concluded in time for ceremonial signature by Mr Roy Jenkins, the President of the European Commission, when he visits Belgrade towards the end of next month.

EEC foreign ministers, spurred on by the news of President Tito's illness, resolved earlier this month to reach rapid agreement on a new trade relationship with Yugoslavia, which has been the subject of a final but unsuccessful negotiation for more than two years.

The ministers' haste reflected an awareness that any post-Tito threat to Yugoslavia is less likely to come from direct Soviet military intervention than from Soviet exploitation of internal tensions exacerbated by the country's severe economic difficulties.

Since the foreign ministers' decision, the permanent representatives in Brussels of member states have been working on a much more generous trade offer to the Yugoslavs. The final details of this new negotiating brief for Herr Haferkamp were agreed today.

President recovering: President Tito is recovering well after the amputation of his left leg last week and is already undergoing rehabilitation treatment, his doctors said today.

They said in a bulletin that the general condition of the Yugoslav leader, who is 67, remained good. It gave no details about the rehabilitation treatment, but medical sources said they believed it would include physiotherapy involving sitting up and leaning on the right leg so that the muscles would not weaken through lack of use.

Yugoslav doctors ignored advice of American and Soviet experts and conducted the unsuccessful operation that in turn led to the amputation of President Tito's left leg, the British medical magazine, *Pulse*, said today.

In its current issue, the magazine said Dr Mirko Debelak of the Houston Medical Centre and Dr Marato Knjazev, the Soviet cardiovascular expert, did "not believe the arterial blockage in the lower left leg was amenable to surgery and they feared such an operation might cause gangrene to develop and lead to the amputation of the leg."—Reuter and UPI.

W Berlin in £125m railway land deal with E Germans

From Gretel Spitzer
Berlin, Jan 24

East Germany and the West Berlin Senate today signed an agreement on unused railway land belonging to the former German Reich Railway Company in West Berlin. Like all other property in Greater Berlin, the land is under East German administration.

The agreement provides for the building of a new, modern railway goods station. The building costs of DM490m (about £125m) will be paid for by the Bonn Government and the Berlin Senate in exchange for the East German putting scattered and mostly unused railway land at the Senate's disposal.

As a result, West Berlin will gain an area of about 60 hectares (148 acres) for city planning purposes. The plans, which were drawn up during the 10-year-long negotiations, provide for new streets during the first construction phase; this will be followed by the building of common recreational facilities and sports sites in a densely populated area.

As the main railway and the S-Bahn (elevated city railway) systems are under East German administration all personnel employed by the East German state railways. Earlier this month, the railway gave notice to 18 employees, all residents of West Berlin. The redundancy notices came as a surprise and aroused great indignation.

Today, 20 people employed by the East German railways, some of them members of the Communist Trade Union Federation (FDGB) released an open letter sent to the railway organization demanding that the notices be withdrawn.

The letter strongly criticized the FDGB for not standing up for the workers and for failing to protect their interests. It described the East German railway rationalization attempts as "leading patterns of early capitalism."

So far no official East German explanation has been given for the dismissals. Only *Die Wahrheit*, the organ of the West Berlin Communist Party, has commented on the matter. According to the newspaper, the "continuing inflationary developments in West Berlin" had made the dismissals necessary.

Rome musical tribute to memory of bassoonist

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Jan 24

In a commonplace that death regards as news, Signor Francesco Cossiga, the Prime Minister, left on a visit to Washington and the United States State Department was again busy correcting his own statements as to how it would feel to see the death of a musician in a future Italian Government.

The Vatican was reluctantly disciplining the Dutch bishops. Connoisseurs of concerts for sad occasions might not think much of the passing of a bassoonist in effect, the impression was certainly as great as the Berlin Philharmonic's farewell a quarter of a century ago to Furtwängler, with the much more weighty choice of the *Enigma* and the four sons sung by Fischer-Dieskau.

In fact the occasion was not fundamentally sad. Signor Giulini may have been more involved with the slow movements of the involvement was one of enthusiasm rather than mourning. He produced an atmosphere of enchantment not of death.

The success was immense. It was an occasion which Rome will look back on, because it is unlikely to be repeated. This was the only reason for regret.

Envoys gain right to alien brides

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Jan 24

It has been a rule, at least since the end of the last century, that French diplomats have to obtain the authorization of the Foreign Minister to marry a foreigner. But the Council d'Etat, on the basis of an action brought by one of the diplomats to quash the Minister's decision prohibiting him from marrying a Bulgarian woman, has decided that this rule is unconstitutional.

The verdict is based on Article 34 of the constitution which states that Parliament alone can lay down the rules governing "the fundamental guarantees granted to military and civil personnel employed by the state." In other words, by restricting the freedom of diplomatic and consular officials to choose their spouses, the Government has encroached on the powers of Parliament.

The first government decree introducing such restriction goes back to 1894. It was confirmed by another in 1938, and a third in 1951, at the time of the cold war. So until the National Assembly votes a law that diplomats must obtain authorization to marry a foreigner, restrictions upon them in the matter have been removed.

In practice, however, the minister allowed mixed marriages in nine cases out of 10, yet been disclosed about the committee's discussions. It is believed that they included entering the Socialist-backed candidate for the Presidency next year: a stern fight against the communist-sponsored United Peoples Alliance and the consolidation of the Socialist Party as a workers' party.

They also wish to end the ruling Democratic Alliance's majority in Parliament by "firm and continuous opposition" by developing an image of a workable alternative to the present centrists.

Stressing that there was no real misunderstanding between different socialist currents within the party, Dr Soares said that alternative proposals for party action which were advanced by the three outgoing members gained 25 per cent of the committee's votes.

203 safe after airliner crashes

Munich, Jan 24.—All 203 people on board an Air Jamaica DC8 airliner escaped unhurt today when the aircraft burst a tyre on landing at Riem airport here and crashed into landing lights.

Avalanche kills Briton in lorry

Aosta, Italy, Jan 24.—A British woman hitch-hiker was killed today when the lorry in which she was travelling was crushed by an avalanche near here. She was named as Patricia Maureen Grihaute, aged 21.

Socialists drop 'old school' leaders

From Jose Sherdiff
Lisbon, Jan 24

Growing tension between two opposing factions of the Portuguese Socialist Party have resulted in significant changes in its secretariat.

After lengthy and heated discussions at a meeting of the party's national committee in Oporto over the weekend, it has been announced that three of the "old school" members of the party have been replaced by younger and more radical members.

The outgoing members are Dr Manuel Alegre, a poet and former Secretary of State for Culture under Dr Mario Soares; Dr Tito de Morais, a founder of the Portuguese Socialist Action Group which preceded the present Socialist Party; and Dr Jaime Gama, a former Socialist Minister of Internal Administration.

Their withdrawal from the secretariat follows fundamental differences of opinion about the political strategy of the Socialist Party during the 1980s.

The weekend meeting was to finalize this future strategy for putting the party on its feet again and to regain the prestige and power it held when it won the 1976 elections to become the governing party.

The decline of the Socialist Party and its loss of government was accelerated by the dissidence of many important members, some of whom subsequently formed separate left-wing groups.

These groups have so far shown little likelihood of achieving power, but they have proved to be seriously debilitating to their original party.

Although nothing official has

OVERSEAS

New Zealand expels Soviet envoy for giving money to leftist party

From W. P. Reeves
Wellington, Jan 24

Mr Vsevolod Sofinsky the Soviet Ambassador to New Zealand, is to be expelled immediately for passing money to the Moscow-aligned Socialist Unity Party, it was announced here today.

Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, said that Mr Sofinsky had been seen by security officers handing the money over. Mr Muldoon said he believed the amount involved was "quite large."

Mr Sofinsky is the second Russian to be expelled from New Zealand. On Tuesday, the Government ordered Dr Sergei Zimin, a journalist with the Novosti news agency, to leave within 72 hours. He was expelled as a protest against the Russian intervention in Afghanistan.

Mr Sofinsky has been in New Zealand less than a year. He served as a counsellor at the Russian Embassy in London between 1963 and 1969.

Mr Muldoon said the Ambassador's action was wholly unacceptable to the Government.

"The evidence on which this decision is based is conclusive," he said. "It was obtained by the Security Intelligence Service in the course of its routine surveillance of Soviet diplomats."

"The Government, however, does not intend to make any of this evidence public. To do so would prejudice and inhibit continuing investigations."

Mr Muldoon saw the incident as confirmation of the Government's belief that the Socialist Unity Party is financially supported by the Soviet Union and subject to direction from Moscow.

He said: "The personal involvement of the Ambassador shows that this is a matter of official Soviet policy."

The Socialist Unity Party, which broke with the New Zealand Communist Party in 1956, is not proscribed. It is thought to have a membership of no more than a hundred or so but nevertheless has some influence on the industrial scene.

Mr Muldoon said that the party had been at the centre of much of the industrial strife that had plagued the country in recent years.

Mr Kenneth Douglas, the party's secretary, is also the general secretary of the powerful Federation of Labour. Mr William Andersen, the party's president, is chairman of the Auckland Trades Council.

Though Mr Andersen denied any knowledge of the incident involving Mr Sofinsky, the only financial assistance the Soviet Union would be for fares for delegates going overseas to conferences, he said.

Landing radar 'off' in fatal Iran air crash

By David Watts

When an Iran Air jetliner crashed at Tehran airport on Monday night, killing 128, the important Instrument Landing System (ILS) was not working.

The Iranian Revolutionary Council said that all systems had been operating normally at the time of the accident. The Council said the industrial action controllers had been taking bad weather into account before the crash.

The aircraft, a Boeing 727 of Iran Air piloted by South African, crashed in a snowstorm in the Elburz mountains north of Tehran after the pilot had circled for some time hoping that the weather would improve.

According to a source on an airliner which landed safely shortly after the ill-fated Boeing, the ILS was not working at the time of the accident. The ILS gives the pilot of an aircraft a constant reading of the aircraft's height, speed, distance from the runway and alignment to the runway's centre-line.

It is of great assistance to pilots, particularly at night or in bad weather, to be able to

Amnesty offer in Namibia

From Our Own Correspondent
Cape Town, Jan 24

An offer of an amnesty to some, but not all, South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) guerrilla fighters operating from Angola into Namibia was given a qualified welcome by politicians in the territory today.

The offer was made last night by Professor Gerrit Viljoen, the Administrator-General, promulgating a resolution by the Namibia National Assembly urging that guerrillas who had been forced to join SWAPO should be given the chance to surrender and return peacefully to their homes.

The Administrator-General's action was welcomed by Pastor Cornelius Njohoba, Chief Minister of Ovambo, Mr Dirk Mudge, leader of the Democratic turn-Halle Alliance, and by Mr Eben Van Zyl of the right-wing Akur Party, who said those who had been forced or lured across the Angola border must be allowed back home without fear of retribution. Pastor Njohoba said pamphlets explaining the amnesty were being distributed to the guerrillas.

Sale of £5m US art collection

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Auction aficionados are to be treated to the American answer to Montmore and von Hirsch when the art collection of the late Mr and Mrs Edgar W. Garbisch comes up for sale in May. The collection is estimated to fetch more than \$10m (about £5m).

Mrs Garbisch was the second daughter of Walter P. Chrysler, founder of the car manufacturing firm, and the Garbisch home—"Pokety"—on the eastern shore of Maryland—was inherited from him. There will be a house sale at "Pokety", and an auction of the most important treasures in New York.

Edgar William Garbisch and his wife, Eleanor Chrysler Garbisch, died within hours of each other on December 14, aged 80 and 72 respectively.

Their collection of American Naive painting is famous throughout the United States. The best of it has been donated to the National Gallery in Washington, the Metropolitan Museum in New York, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Few are aware that they also owned an important collection of Impressionist and modern paintings. Among the prize items in the Sotheby auction will be a 1923 oil painting by Picasso entitled "Seated Acrobat with Folded Arms", which previously belonged to Vladimir Horowitz, the pianist.

Released nurse starts her journey home

Bengkok, Jan 24.—Miss Rita Nightingale, the British nurse freed from a 20-year jail sentence for heroin smuggling, left today for Delhi and Frankfurt, British Embassy sources said.

Miss Nightingale, aged 26, from Blackburn, Lancashire, chose not to go directly to Britain but was expected to arrive there within 48 hours, they said.

Earlier, Miss Nightingale, who served less than three years of her sentence because of a grant of clemency by King Bhumibol, went shopping under police escort for some warm clothes for her arrival in Britain.—Reuter.

Seoul takes up N Korea's summit proposal

Seoul, Jan 24.—South Korea today accepted a North Korean proposal that their prime ministers should hold talks as soon as possible on ways of reuniting the two parts of Korea, divided 35 years ago.

Representatives of Seoul and Pyongyang met three times at Panmunjom early last year after a call by the late President Park Chung Hee to talk "at any time, place or level", but the contacts failed to make headway because of differences over representation.—Reuter.

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OVERSEAS

Russia shows anxiety in Paris talks for French good will

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, Jan. 24

France is about the only country in the West which is still on speaking terms with the Soviet Union, after the intervention in Afghanistan and the arrest of Dr Andrei Sakharov, the dissident scientist.

In response to President Giscard d'Estaing's letter to President Brezhnev on January 15, insisting on some positive demonstration—that is a withdrawal of Soviet troops—that Moscow still wanted détente, Mr Georges Kornienko, the Deputy Foreign Minister, was sent to Paris to give further details.

He arrived last night in the same aircraft as M Jacques Chaban-Delmas, the President of the National Assembly, who had cut short his stay in Russia because of the Sakharov affair.

Mr Kornienko spent the better part of the day at the Foreign Ministry. M André Javies, the Foreign Minister, told him that Soviet action over Dr Sakharov was intolerable, and pressed for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan as a condition for any further talks. The communiqué issued after five hours of talks was hardly illuminating. But it is clear that the French disapproval of Soviet action was stated bluntly. It says that the Foreign Minister "recalled that the French

Government considered the Soviet intervention unacceptable, and that such an action constituted a serious threat to the achievements of détente."

Taking note of the stated intentions to withdraw Soviet forces from Afghanistan as soon as conditions allowed, the minister emphasized that the execution of this intention would be a decisive element in appreciating whether the rights of the Afghan people and the requirements of peace were respected.

The fact that the Deputy Foreign Minister came to Paris to explain his Government's position is significant. It indicates both an embarrassment on the part of the Soviet Government over the uproar in France provoked by this double blow to détente, and its desire to preserve its "privileged relationship" with France in spite of it.

The Sakharov affair, coming on top of the intervention in Afghanistan, confirms the French view that if Russia remains fundamentally attached to the principle of détente in Europe it feels that it can take the communist line in its relations with the world in defiance of world opinion.

The French standpoint, however, reiterated with force by M François-Poncet today, is that détente is global, and cannot be confined to the West.

China joins spirited fight for US vodka sales

From Michael Leapman

New York, Jan. 24

China is seeking to exploit the anti-Russian mood in America by muscling in on the vodka market. Out-and-out ardent of the most explicit nature as declared in a spirited full-page advertisement, which appeared in a number of newspapers yesterday.

Headed "Did the Russians misallocate?" the advertisement showed a bottle of Stolichnaya vodka and a bottle of Tsingtao, a newly introduced Chinese variety.

"America's love affair with Russian vodka appears to be on the rocks," the advertisement began. "And the big question liquor circles is: What vodka will they drink in its place?"

The answer was not long in coming: "The only vodka with sufficient prestige to supplant the Russian import is the famed Chinese vodka Tsingtao."

Hospitality to the Russians since their intervention in Afghanistan has expressed itself in some instances by resistance to Russian vodka. Though it would be an exaggeration to call it a national trend, the importers of Stolichnaya, only Russian brand sold here, have been sensitive enough to take down billboards advertising it and to suspend press advertisements.

"We're going to keep a low profile until the Russian situation is cleared up," a director said.

Last week, a discotheque in New York invited customers to smash oil on the faces of Stolichnaya bottles. A bar in Tallahassee, Florida, has a sign reading "Never to Stolichnaya" hanging over the counter, and there have been similar demonstrations elsewhere.

Not only vodka has been affected. Los Angeles firm planning to market souvenirs of the Moscow Olympics featuring the Russians' "Misha the bear" symbol, has now abandoned the project. Mr Stanford Blum, the head of the firm, said that numerous retailers had cancelled orders.

"Nobody wants to have the stigma of Russia attached to them," he said.

Sales of Stolichnaya last year amounted to about \$60m (£22m). Even the traditional added—gin with a splash of dry vermouth—is now often made with vodka and you have to ask for a gin Martini to be sure of getting one of the original kind.

The largest share of the market is held by American-made vodka which sells for about \$6 a bottle, two-thirds the price of brands imported from Russia, Poland and Finland.

The Chinese Tsingtao is more expensive still, at \$10, and it has been struggling to gain acceptance.

Banishment of Dr Sakharov reflects Kremlin thinking there is nothing to lose in post-invasion crisis Soviet move to liquidate dissent

From Michael Binyon

Moscow, Jan. 24

The bold condemnation of Soviet intervention in Afghanistan by the Moscow Helsinki human rights monitoring group, to which Dr Andrei Sakharov, the exiled dissident leader, lent his name, may be one of the last such statements to find its way into the hands of Western correspondents.

With the banishment of Dr Sakharov to Gorky, the dissident movement has lost its last remaining figure of any stature. His last statement, in which he stated that he would move against the doyen, the Soviet leadership is not likely to be active in silencing those still active in issuing protests and statements.

Virtually all the leading figures in the Helsinki group, set up by Dr Yuri Orlov to monitor Soviet compliance with the provisions on human rights in the accords, are in prison, or abroad. The Soviet leadership will not leave the job half done.

"Things will be much harder. I am ready for arrest," Mr Roy Medvedev said philosophically today. Mr Medvedev, a historian and former party member, does not consider himself a dissident.

He does not sign protests, issue statements or stand vigil outside courthouses. He does not support President Carter's grain embargo, or call for an Olympic boycott. But he admits that the atmosphere is changing. He has been under observation and he has to be careful.

To the authorities, he is a dissident as much as all the others. They make no distinction between religious activists, liberals, right-wing nationalists,

still calling themselves Marxists.

All are seen to oppose the authority of the Communist Party and embarrass the state, and the decision has been taken to liquidate them in the literal, Stalinist sense—this opposition.

Dr Sakharov was always the real problem. For a long time he commanded residual respect at home and considerable respect abroad. If the Russians had moved against him last year, they would have provoked a crisis with the West similar to the one that followed the dissident trial in 1978, jeopardised the Salt 2 agreement and damaged valuable scientific links with America.

But after Afghanistan the Kremlin had nothing to lose. President Carter had done his worst: what more could Moscow expect?

Though the Sakharov affair may have especially upset those Europeans who felt that the American had over-reacted on Afghanistan, the Kremlin probably calculated that in the general crisis atmosphere it would not now make very much difference.

For all their expressions of outrage, France and West Germany would not change their policies to the Soviet Union for the sake of one man, even a Sakharov. It is to these European countries that the Russians are looking for a post-Afghanistan relationship with the West.

Though the drive against the dissidents is closely linked to the Olympics, Dr Sakharov's banishment was only possible because of the general breakdown in détente. As Mr Medvedev admitted, while his self-censorship may measure against Dr Sakharov, from the Soviet administration's point of view sending him to Gorky was

an "agile step".

It is not illegal, as it was carried out under long-standing administrative regulations. It avoids the need for a damaging public trial. It solves the problem of Dr Sakharov's contacts with the world through Western journalists with a neat surgical stroke.

It is relatively lenient, as the Sakharovs have apparently been given a new flat in a big modern city, and it is reversible. If Dr Sakharov is deemed reformable, he can be allowed to return without any need for judicial procedures. At least that is the argument that has privately been made to protesting European statesmen and scientists.

A very large number of Russians have already been sent out of Moscow with preparation for the games, and will probably be allowed to return later.

But the attitudes of society have changed. As the dissidents have come under greater pressure, they have become more militant. And they have become more ardent. They have become more isolated.

Nowadays it is only self-confessed dissidents who sign protests. Ten years ago, it was not uncommon for intellectuals and scientists to sign all kinds of protests and declarations. Now after a long propaganda campaign against dissent it is too risky.

Even Dr Sakharov's support among the scientific community is dwindling. Until now the Soviet Academy of Science has never held a full secret ballot of its members to consider his expulsion, being loath to break down its tradition of unanimity.

But there are signs that the Academy will now put the matter to the vote, and will find the required two-thirds majority to cancel Dr Sakharov's membership.

Tory backbenchers disappointed

Continued from page 1

allies, Sir Ian Gilmour counselled patience. He said it was difficult in the time that had elapsed, and with the events themselves, "almost a cavalcade" to get a concerted response. This was not surprising, he suggested, and would take still more time "to bring them into line."

This impression of bumbling arrangements with our allies, especially over the Olympics, could be one of the topics Mr Callaghan, Leader of the Opposition, addressed in the foreign affairs debate in the Commons on Monday. But, for the moment, Mr Peter Shore, shadow Foreign Secretary, took another tack.

He insisted that Labour's condemnation of Soviet actions had been sharpened by the arrest of Dr Sakharov. And he passionately called on the Govern-

ment to look to a major initiative with the Third World to remove instability by attempting to lift the economies of both North and South.

Tory backbenchers were subdued, and others distinctly disaffected. Mr Julian Amery, MP for Brighton Pavilion, wanted to know what consideration the Government had given to backing up President Carter's threat to use force to resist Soviet aggression in the Gulf. But Sir Ian Gilmour would not be drawn beyond saying that we would be staying closely in touch.

Mr Terence Higgins, MP for Worthing, urged the Government to consider banning imports of Russian subsidised goods. Sir Ian suggested the Department of Trade consider that.

Mr Peter Emery, MP for Hove, wanted a big demonstration of Soviet diplomats in

London, but found that was impossible. Mr Eldon Griffiths, MP for Ebury, St Edmunds, wanted a Western military force in the Arabian sea and preparations in Britain for reintroduction of what he called "selective" national service.

Sir Ian doubted the idea of a new, sweeping, and comprehensive set of laws, but he left it up for consultation.

Mr Peter Tapsell, MP for Horncastle, also finding the measures inadequate, suggested denying overflights rights for Soviet aircraft, ferrying once to South Vietnam, and a Boycott feast: Sir Denis Folles, chairman of the British Olympics Association, said yesterday it would consider the Government's call to boycott the Moscow games, but he thought it unlikely that any of the bodies would change their minds.

Peace still reigns only 40 miles from Kabul

From Ian Murray

Jalrez, Afghanistan, Jan. 24

The shabby Afghan soldier in the dirty grey blanket uniform hesitated for only a moment before he had destroyed two tanks and killed 350 men.

He and his men were supporters of the Hizbe Islami group, which is a near fanatic Moslem organisation. In his view, the Russians were in Kabul, but he and his men would go on fighting them. As far as he was concerned, the Russians only controlled the towns at the moment. The whole of the rest of the country was in insurgent hands.

There came a knock at the door and a silver-haired man came in. The rebel leader sprang to his feet. This was Jalil Mullah, Haddad, the chief tribesman of the entire area. Despite the apparent lack of telephones or other communications the news of our arrival had spread quickly.

He spoke with authority and was treated with respect. Like the headman of this tribe for generations before him, he was the virtual king of the area. The writ of the Government of Afghanistan did not run in his territory any more today than it did before the Russians arrived. He is the law in his own lands.

In talking to him and his mujahideen leader, it became obvious that there had been no real fighting or trouble in the area since the snows came and the Russians arrived. During the summer there had been a certain amount of bombing by helicopters, shelling by tanks from the hills near by.

Many women and children had left to seek refuge in Pakistan, but the bulk of the population were still there, and with the snow and the mujahideen to protect them, they seem ready to stay.

Jalrez is scarcely 40 miles from Kabul, yet it is typical of large tracts of the country where the small towns and the mountainsides are in complete control of the "rebels" or local people, and they really are. This has not so far changed with the arrival of the Russians.

When the snows melt in a couple of months' time there may be the chance of a real offensive against such insurgent strongholds. For the moment, however, Jalrez is left in peace with a few Russian troops.

Mr Mullah said that he had been fighting for a long time against the Russians. He was just Muhammad Mullah, the fighting head of 500 Pashtun rebels, he said. His men had been fighting for a long time against the Russians.

German lorry driver shot

Kabul, Jan. 24.—One of two German lorry drivers, who were ambushed and believed kidnapped on the main road from Pakistan to Kabul on Sunday, has been found shot dead, West German Embassy sources said today. There was no word about the fate of the other man.

According to unconfirmed reports reaching diplomats in Peshawar an Austrian traveling with the lorries was killed. It was not clear whether there was confusion over the identity of the dead German.

One of the missing men was Herr Wolfgang Hergert of Meckenheim, near Bonn, the owner of the haulage firm in which the lorries belonged. Diplomats said they understood his was not the body found.

Mr Carter sees Afghanistan invasion as worst threat to peace since the Second World War

Washington, Jan. 24.—The following is the full text of President Carter's State of the Union address to Congress:

Mr President, Mr Speaker, members of the ninety-sixth Congress, fellow citizens:

As we meet tonight, it has never been clearer that the state of our Union depends on the state of the world. And tonight, as throughout our generation, freedom and peace in the world depend on the state of the American Union.

The 1980s have been born in turmoil and change. This is a time of challenge to our interests and our values, a time that tests our wisdom and our will. At this moment in Iran 50 Americans are still held captive, innocent victims of terrorism and anarchy.

Also at this moment, massive Soviet invading forces are attempting to subjugate the fiercely independent and deeply religious people of Afghanistan.

These two acts—one of international terrorism and one of military aggression—present a serious challenge to the United States and to the other nations of the world. Together, we will meet these threats to peace.

I am determined that the United States will remain the strongest of all nations, but our power will never be used to initiate a threat to the security and freedom of the rights of any human being. We seek to be and to remain secure—a nation at peace in a stable world. But to secure we must face the world as it is.

Three basic developments have helped to shape our challenges. The steady growth and increasing projection of Soviet military power beyond its own borders. The overwhelming dependence of the industrial democracies on oil supplies from the Middle East; and the press of social, religious, economic and political changes in many nations of the developing world—exemplified by the revolution in Iran.

Each of these factors is important in its own right. Each interacts with the others. All three are now focused on one troubled area of the world. All must be faced together—squarely and courageously.

We will face these challenges. We will meet them with the best that is in us. And we will not fail. In response to the abhorrent act in Iran, our nation has been aroused and unified as never before in peacetime. We will never yield to blackmail.

We continue to pursue these specific goals: To protect the present and future interests of the United States; to preserve the peace and freedom of the American hostages; and to seek in every possible way their safe release; if possible, to avoid bloodshed which might further endanger the lives of our fellow Americans.

To enlist the help of other nations to end this criminal violation of the moral and legal standards of the civilized world; and to persuade the Iranian leaders that the real danger to their nation comes from the Soviet troops in Afghanistan, and that the unwarranted Iranian quarrel with us hampers their response to this greater danger.

If the American hostages are harmed, a severe price will be paid. We will never rest until

every one of the victims is released.

We now face a broader, more fundamental challenge in the region because of the recent military action of the Soviet Union.

Now, as during the last three and one-half decades, the relationship between the United States and the Soviet Union is the most critical factor in determining whether the world will live in peace or be engulfed in global conflict.

Since the end of the Second World War, America has led other nations in meeting the challenge of mounting Soviet power. This has not been a simple or static relationship. Between us there has been cooperation and competition, and there have been times of confrontation.

In the 1940s, we took the lead in creating the Atlantic Alliance in response to the Soviet Union's suppression and consolidation of its European empire and the resulting threat to Western Europe.

In the 1950s, we helped to contain further Soviet challenges in Korea and the Middle East, and we returned, to assure that containment.

In the 1960s we met Soviet challenges in the Berlin and Cuban missile crises, and then we sought to engage the Soviet Union in the important task of moving beyond the cold war and away from confrontation.

Add in the 1970s, three American Presidents negotiated with the Soviet Union in an attempt to help the growth of the nuclear arms race. We sought to establish rules of behavior that would reduce the risk of nuclear war, and we searched for areas of cooperation that could make our relations reciprocal and productive—not only for the sake of our two nations, but for the security and peace of the world.

In all these actions, we have maintained two commitments: to meet any challenge by Soviet military power, and to develop ways to resolve disputes and keep the peace.

Preventing nuclear war is the foremost responsibility of the two superpowers. That is why we have negotiated the strategic arms limitation treaties—SALT 1 and SALT 2.

Especially now in a time of great tension, observing the mutual constraints imposed by the terms of these treaties will be in the best interest of both countries. We will continue to work for peace. I will consult closely with the Congress as we strive to control our weapons. That effort will not be abandoned.

We superpowers also have a responsibility to exercise restraint in the use of military power. The mutual constraints imposed by the terms of these treaties will be in the best interest of both countries. We will continue to work for peace. I will consult closely with the Congress as we strive to control our weapons. That effort will not be abandoned.

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The vast majority of the nations of the world have condemned this latest Soviet attempt to extend its colonial domination of others and have demanded the immediate withdrawal of the invading forces. The Muslim world is especially and justifiably outraged by this aggression against an Islamic people. No action of a world power has ever been so quickly and so overwhelmingly condemned.

But verbal condemnation is not enough. The Soviet Union must pay a concrete price for their aggression. While the invasion continues, we and other nations cannot continue business as usual with the Soviet Union.

That is why the United States has imposed strict economic penalties on the Soviet Union. We will not permit Soviet ships to fish in the coastal waters of the United States. I have cut Soviet access to high-technology equipment and agricultural products.

I have limited other commerce with the Soviet Union and have asked our allies and friends to join with us in restricting their own trade with the Soviet Union and not to replace those embargoed items.

I have notified the Olympic Committee that with Soviet invading forces in Afghanistan, neither the American people nor I will support sending an Olympic team to Moscow.

The Soviet Union must answer some basic questions: Will it help promote a more peaceful international environment in which its own legitimate, peaceful concerns can be pursued? Or will it continue to expand its military power far beyond its genuine security needs, using that power for colonial conquest?

The Soviet Union must realize that its decision to use military force in Afghanistan will be costly to every political and economic relationship it values.

The region now threatened by Soviet troops in Afghanistan is of great strategic importance: it contains more than two-thirds of the world's exportable oil. The Soviet effort to dominate Afghanistan has brought Soviet military forces to within 300 miles of the Indian Ocean and close to the Straits of Hormuz—a waterway through which much of the free world's oil must flow. The Soviet Union is now attempting to consolidate a strategic position that poses a grave threat to the free movement of Middle East oil.

Attack on the Gulf would be repelled

This situation demands careful thought, steady nerves, and resolute action—not only for this year but for many years to come. It demands the participation of this new thrust to security in the Persian Gulf and South-West Asia. It demands the participation of those who rely on oil from the Middle East and are concerned with global peace and stability. And it demands continued and close cooperation with countries in the area which might be threatened.

Meeting this challenge will take time, will, diplomatic and political wisdom, economic sacrifice and, of course, military capability.



President Carter making his State of the Union address

We must call on the best that is in us to preserve the security of this critical region.

Our position is absolutely clear: An attempt by any outside force to gain control of the Persian Gulf region will be regarded as an assault on the vital interests of the United States. It will be repelled by use of any means necessary, including military force.

During the last three years we have acted to improve our own security and our prospects for peace—not only in the vital oil-producing areas of the Persian Gulf region, but around the world. We have increased our military commitment for defence, and we will sustain this increased effort through our five-year defence programme. It is imperative that the Congress approve without any reduction.

We are improving our capability to deploy United States military forces rapidly to distant areas. We have helped to strengthen NATO and our other alliances. We have increased our military readiness to develop and deploy modernized intermediate-range nuclear forces to meet an unwarranted and increasing threat from the nuclear weapons of the Soviet Union.

We are working with our allies to prevent conflict in the Middle East. The peace treaty between Egypt and Israel is a notable achievement which represents a

strategic asset for America and which also enhances prospects for regional and world peace. We are now engaged in further negotiations to provide full autonomy for the people of the West Bank and to resolve the Palestinian issue in all its aspects, and to preserve the peace and security of Israel. Let no one doubt our commitment to the peace and security of Israel.

We have expanded our own sphere of friendship. Our deep commitment to human rights and to meeting human needs has improved our relationship with many of the Third World. Our decision to normalize relations with the People's Republic of China will help to preserve peace and stability in Asia and in the Western Pacific.

We have increased and strengthened our naval presence in the Indian Ocean, and we are now making arrangements for key naval and air facilities to be used by our forces in the region of North-east Africa and the Persian Gulf.

We have reaffirmed our 1959 agreement to help Pakistan preserve its independence and integrity. I am asking the Congress specifically to take action consistent with our own laws—to assist Pakistan in resisting any outside aggression. I am asking the Congress specifically to reaffirm this commitment. I am also working, along

with other nations, to provide additional military and economic aid for Pakistan.

In the weeks ahead we will further increase our military and political ties with other nations in the region.

We believe that there are no irreconcilable differences between us and the Islamic people. We respect the faith of Islam, and are ready to cooperate with all Muslim countries.

Dedication to preserve vital interests

Finally, we are prepared to work with other nations in the region to shape a cooperative security framework that will be different values and political beliefs, yet enhances the independence, security and prosperity of all.

All these efforts emphasize our dedication to defend and preserve the vital interests of our nation and of our allies, not only in Europe and the Pacific, but also in the part of the world which has such great strategic importance and is reaching through the Middle East to South-West Asia.

I will pursue these efforts with vigor and determination, and I will not hesitate to preserve our nation's security.

The men and women of America's armed forces are on duty tonight in many parts of the world. I am proud of the job they are doing and I know you share that pride. I am convinced that our volunteers' courage and our volunteers' force are adequate for our current defence needs.

I hope that it will not become necessary to reimpose the draft. However, we must be prepared for that possibility. For this reason, I have determined that the selective service system must be revitalized. I will need legislation and budget proposals to do so. I am asking the Congress to act quickly so that we can begin registration and then meet future mobilization needs as they arise.

We also need quick passage of a new charter to define clearly a legal authority and accountability for our intelligence agencies. While guaranteeing that abuses will not occur, we need to ensure that our intelligence capability to collect intelligence and to tighten our controls on sensitive information. An effective intelligence capability is vital to our nation's security.

The decade ahead will be a time of great change, as nations everywhere seek to deal with new problems and age-old tensions. But America need have no fear. We can thrive in a world of change if we remain true to our values and actively engage in promoting world peace.

We will continue to work as we have in the Middle East and elsewhere to resolve regional disputes. We will continue to build our ties with helping nations, respecting their independence, and helping them to achieve. And we will continue to support the growth of democracy and human rights.

In repressive regimes, popular frustrations often have no outlet. They can erupt in violence, and their governments can approach their problems through

through open, democratic methods—the basis for stability and peace. It is far more solid and enduring.

That is why our support for human rights and political freedom is in our national interest as well as part of our national character.

Peace—a peace that preserves freedom—means progress. We must have progress. In the coming years as a free nation, we will continue to pursue peace.

But to be strong abroad we must remain strong at home. In order to be strong, we must continue to face up to the difficult issues that confront us as a nation today.

The crises in Iran and Afghanistan have dramatized a very important lesson: our dependence on foreign oil is a clear and present danger to our national security.

The need has never been more urgent. At long last, we must have a clear, comprehensive energy programme for our country.

I have been working with Congress in a concentrated and persistent way over the past three years to meet this urgent need. We have made progress. But Congress must act promptly now to complete final action on this vital energy legislation.

Our country must have a major conservation effort, import initiatives to develop solar power, realistic pricing based on the true cost of energy, incentives for the production of coal and other fossil fuels in America, and our nation's most massive peacetime research and development of synthetic fuels.

The American people are making progress in energy conservation. We must reduce our petroleum consumption by 5 per cent and gasoline consumption by 5 per cent below that of the 1970s.

Now we must do more. After consultation with the governors, we will set gasoline conservation goals for each of 50 states, and I will make them mandatory if these goals are not met.

I have established an import ceiling for 1980 of 8,000,000 barrels a day—well below the level of oil imports during 1977. I expect our imports to be much lower than that, but the ceiling will be enforced with an import fee if necessary.

The biggest single factor in the inflation rate increase last year was from energy, and skyrocketing world oil prices. We must take whatever actions are necessary to reduce our dependence on foreign oil, and to reduce inflation and gasoline rationing.

As individuals and as families, few of us can produce energy by ourselves. But we can all conserve energy. Even one of us, every day of our lives.

Tonight I call on you, on all the people of America, to help conserve energy. Let us make 1980 the year of energy conservation.

Our challenges are formidable. But there is a new spirit of unity and resolve in our country. We move into the 1980s with hope and a bright vision of the America we want: An America strong and free. An America at peace. An America with equal rights for all citizens and for women, guaranteed in the constitution. An America with jobs and hope and education for every citizen.

An America with a clean and beautiful life in its cities and on our farms. An America that helps to feed the world. An America secure in filling its own energy needs. An America with justice, tolerance and compassion.

For this vision to come true, we must sacrifice. But this national commitment will be an exciting enterprise that will unify our people.

Together, as one people, let us work to build our strength at home. Together as one indivisible nation, let us build a peace and security throughout the world. Together let us make of this time of challenge and danger a decade of national resolve and of brave achievement.

Thank you very much.

OVERSEAS

S Africa has £400m to spend from gold revenue surplus

From Eric Marsden
Cape Town, Jan 24

The South African Cabinet is faced with a problem that most Western countries would be glad to have: what to do with an estimated surplus of £400m over the revenue from gold budgeted for the two years, 1978-80. It also has to contend with several longer-term problems which are less pleasant.

Even if the gold price falls to hold the high levels it has reached in the past two weeks, the flow of extra revenue seems likely to continue throughout 1980.

Government ministers have said it would be used to repay foreign debts and continue tax reforms. This is being interpreted to mean there is a good chance of more cuts in personal income tax and company tax in the budget in March.

The Government is under strong pressure, however, to spend its windfall to increase spending on housing, education and training programmes for blacks. This has been called for by the two main opposition parties, the Progressive Federal Party, led by Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, and the New Republic Party, led by Mr Vause Raw.

Mr Pieter Barba, the Prime Minister, is also anxious to undertake projects to improve black living standards, which would be seen as the first practical fruits of his pledges of reforms during the past year.

But he has to be careful not to overdo the largesse and risk

antagonizing some of the more conservative elements in the ruling National Party, which are already nervous about his apparent eagerness to change South African society.

Mr Botha is understood to have been told by some of his colleagues that there could be a backlash from unexpected quarters, which could endanger party unity, if the pace of change is too abrupt. Not only the Verkomme wing, led by Dr A. P. Treurnicht, but some of the more moderate MPs fear that a too-hasty approach could be dangerous.

According to the extreme right-wing Herstigte Nasionale Party, there is already a split in the National Party and more and more of its members are joining the NNP. Mr Jasp Marais, the party leader, forecasts that Mr Botha will call an election some time between April and July this year.

Mr Marais claims there is a great deal of tension in the ruling party and suggests the Prime Minister will want to ally this by making good use of the high gold price. He also points out that public servants are to receive pay increases in April. The longer Mr Botha delays, the better the NNP would do, he says.

The cabinet which has begun a series of meetings likely to continue throughout next week, is expected to devote a lot of time to consideration of the legislative programme for the parliamentary session due to open on February 1.

Violence grows against Jerusalem Christians

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, Jan 24

Last Monday, when Mr Charles Cope arrived to open Zion House, his modest but popular Bible shop near the centre of Jerusalem, he found the place swarmed from top to bottom in red and black paint. Among the swastikas and abusive Hebrew scrawlings, was one slogan which stated angrily, "Missionary pigs go home".

The incident was the latest in a recent string of attacks on Christian institutions in the Holy City, which is causing growing concern to Mr Teddy Kolek, the Jewish Mayor, and a number of opposition Labour politicians, who claim that Israel's reputation abroad is being badly damaged.

The attacks are all believed to be the work of members of extreme right-wing Jewish Orthodox groups.

In addition to attacks on Bible shops and historic buildings, such as the Russian Orthodox church and the Mount Zion monastery, the anti-Christian campaign has also taken other, more disturbing forms.

Priests have been spat on and cursed by young religious Jews. The secretary of the Russian Orthodox church and his six-year-old son have been sent threatening letters and, last month, a youth wearing a skull cap burst into the Christian Information Office in East Jerusalem and began destroying a special Christmas display.

Over the last two months, the Jerusalem municipality has spent over £2,000 repairing vandalized Christian institutions under its declared policy of

paying for any damage caused by "inter-ethnic violence".

Earlier this week, Mr Kolek wrote to Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, warning of the deteriorating situation and appealing to him to intervene personally and speak out against the campaign of anti-Christian violence by Jewish extremists. As yet he has received no reply.

The appeal was prompted by the suspicion, shared by many senior municipal officials, that local police were deliberately soft-pedalling their response to the upsurge of Jewish vandalism because of the political power of some of Israel's most extreme Orthodox groupings.

Complaining that the wave of attacks was seriously damaging the city's reputation for tolerance, Mr Kolek told reporters: "The police should deal with the perpetrators of these acts in the way that they deal with the perpetrators of terrorist outrages."

No organization has claimed responsibility for the attacks but the similarity of the targets and methods suggests a strong degree of co-ordination.

In a recent letter Mr David Jaeger, liaison secretary of the United Christian Council in Israel, commented on "the mounting anxiety within the Christian community... caused by the recently stepped up activities of anti-Christian fanatics."

The disturbing new campaign against Christian churches and buildings comes at a time when the Jerusalem authorities are already anxious about the growing violence between secular and religious Jews, particularly over the emotive issue of Sabbath observance.

No prosecution of police chief who fled Kenya

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, Jan 24

James Mungai, the former Kenyan assistant police commissioner who fled from Kenya soon after the death of President Kenyatta in 1978 and returned here last month, will not be prosecuted in connection with an alleged plot to kill President Moi and other leading figures in Kenya, Mr Charles Njonjo, the Attorney General announced here today.

Mr Njonjo had earlier said he was one of those who would have been killed if the plot, aimed at preventing Mr Moi from succeeding President Kenyatta, had succeeded.

Mr Mungai was senior assistant commissioner of police at Nakuru, in the Rift Valley Province, which includes Nakuru, where President Kenyatta spent much of his time. He drove across the border into

Sudan, and later made his way to Switzerland, from where he returned voluntarily last month.

After his disappearance, Mr Njonjo described him as a leading figure in the Ngoroko (assassins) affair. Mr Mungai, however, wrote from Switzerland to say he had been wrongly accused, and knew nothing of the alleged plot.

Mr Mungai was escorted from the airport here last month by security personnel, and has apparently been held in custody since then.

In a statement today, Mr Njonjo said he had considered the whole matter of Mr Mungai's disappearance and the plot, and had decided it would not be in the public interest to prosecute Mr Mungai.

"The Ngoroko affair is a closed chapter. We should all forget it as a bad dream in our country's history," he added.

92 in court after rice uproar

From M. G. G. Pillai
Kuala Lumpur, Jan 24

The Malaysian Government moved swiftly today to defuse the effects of yesterday's demonstration by more than 10,000 rice farmers demanding higher prices in Alor Setar, the Kedah provincial capital, 300 miles north of here.

A group of Government ministers arrived here today as the round-the-clock curfew on the town was maintained and 92 demonstrators were brought to court and charged with rioting and damaging government property.

The situation in the town itself is calm, the curfew keeping the streets deserted. Para-military police and federal reserve units placed a tight cordon around the Alor Setar magistrate's court when the 92 appeared. Sixty-six pleaded guilty and the others claimed trial.

Mr Shabri Yusof, the magistrate, refused them bail and remanded them until February

12 when he will sentence those who pleaded guilty and announce trial dates for the others.

The demonstration began peacefully over demands that the prices the farmers receive for their rice crop was not high enough but Daruk Syed Nohar Shahabuddin, the Kedah State Chief Minister, alleged that unnamed military groups were involved.

When the demonstration got out of hand the farmers threw stones at government buildings and tried to storm the main buildings.

This morning, Government sources said the demonstrations were organized by the opposition Pan Malaysian Islamic Party (PMIP).

The PMIP and the United Malays National Organization (UMNO), the dominant partner in the ruling national front led by Datuk Hussein Onn, the Prime Minister, are the two main Malay political parties.

Government officials appear to have been caught unawares

Controversial Rhodesian auxiliaries set out to neutralize Patriotic Front

Platoons who sing in Bishop Muzorewa's green belt

From Nicholas Ashford
Fort Victoria, Jan 24

The line between the security force auxiliaries and politics is a thin one, according to Major Nick Fawcett of the Rhodesian Army. He explained the role of the auxiliaries, whose activities are causing so much controversy.

They are also known as Pfumvo Revanhu and are "apolitical" in the sense that they do not support any political party, although one of their tasks is to propagate what is referred to as the "national ideology of Zimbabweism".

However the auxiliaries are being deployed around the country with the deliberate intention of coercing people into voting for Bishop Abel Muzorewa, leader of the United African National Council (UANC).

On a visit to an auxiliaries camp at Zaka, deep in the Ndonga tribal trust land, about 50 miles south-east of here, a platoon undergoing training sang songs in support of Bishop Muzorewa. The only election posters in the vicinity were those of the UANC, even though the region is known to be a stronghold of Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) party.

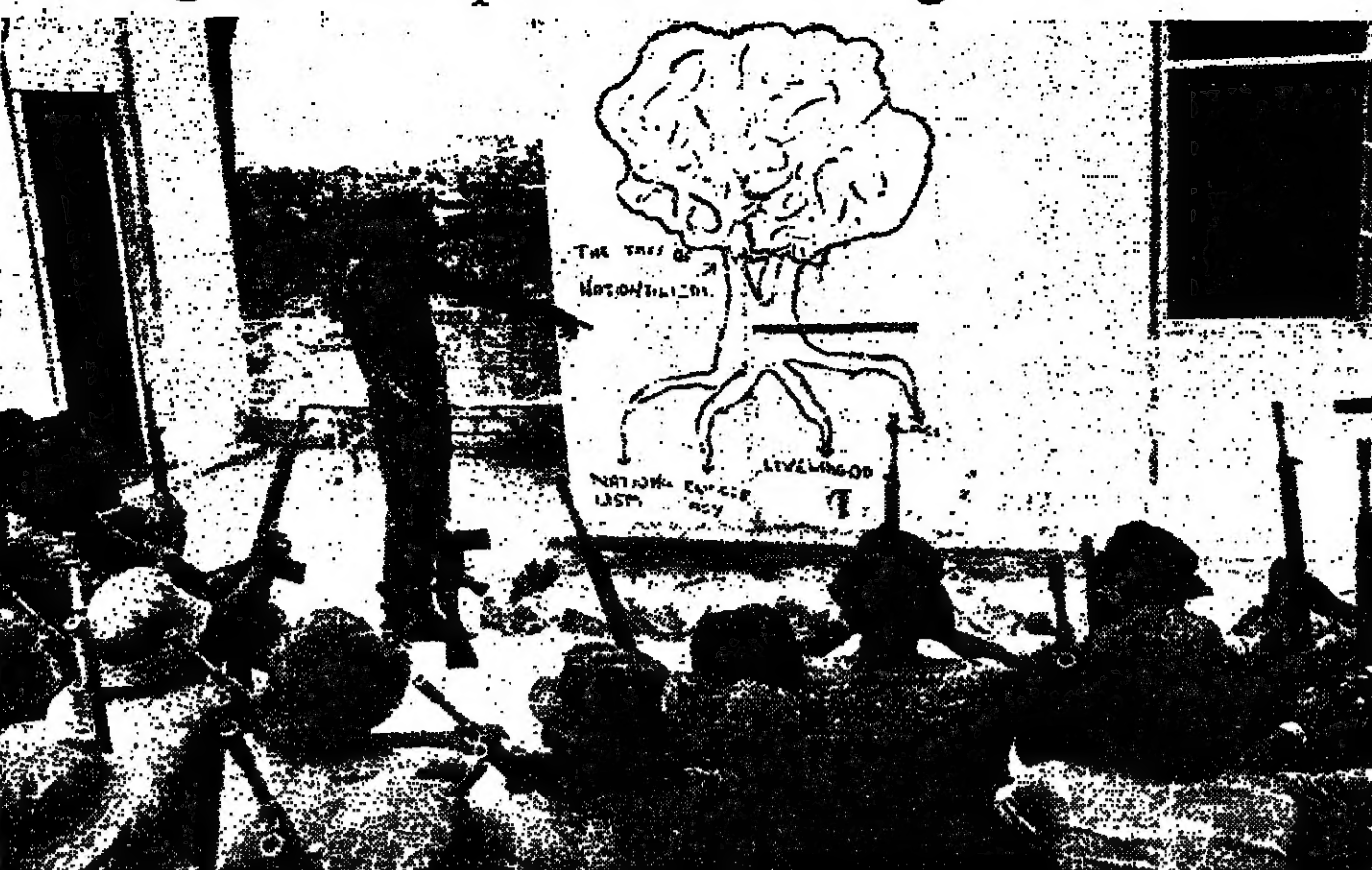
However, Mr Neil Lawton, the local District Commissioner, rejected charges that the auxiliaries were imposing the UANC on the local population by pointing out that Zanu (PF) recently held a well-attended and peaceful political rally at Jerera a few miles away.

Similarly, Mr Alfred Collins, a British monitor of the Rhodesian police based in Fort Victoria, said there had been less than 20 charges of violence laid against members of the auxiliaries since last November.

He thought this indicated a reasonable level of control and discipline, considering there were some 4,500 auxiliaries operating in the Fort Victoria area, known as operational area "Repulse" by the Rhodesians.

But exactly who are the auxiliaries and what do they do?

The force was initially set up after the March 3, 1978, internal agreement to provide a role for



A group of auxiliaries listen to a talk on "Zimbabweism", the principles of which are symbolized by the tree roots.

guerrillas who were loyal to Bishop Muzorewa and other internal leaders.

There were soon complaints that the Pfumvo Revanhu were acting as private armies for their respective political leaders, so it was agreed that they should be brought into the structure of the regular security forces.

However their role differs from ordinary security force units in that the auxiliaries are not only supposed to combat the Patriotic Front guerrillas but also to act as a sort of political counterbalance in rural areas where the influence of the Patriotic Front is strong.

"The auxiliaries are the one

organization that poses a threat to the gross support of the terrorists", Major Fawcett, said, "because they alone can meet the terrorists on their own terms. That is why there is now so much opposition to the auxiliaries."

Their main function is to "win over the local population and to motivate it to support the (former) Government of National Unity and its administration". Another function is to "propagate the national psychological message" which is known rather ponderously as "Zimbabweism".

The four principles of "Zimbabweism" are presented in the form of a sturdy tree with

four roots representing nationalism, democracy, livelihood and peace. The auxiliaries distribute a propaganda booklet about "Zimbabweism" which projects them as the people's friends and their defenders against "CTs" (communist terrorists).

Somewhat inevitably "Zimbabweism" is the antithesis of Zanu (PF)'s style of socialism. For the last six months auxiliaries in the Fort Victoria area have been operating on the basis of what is known as the "green areas concept". Under this, an auxiliary unit of about 50 men is placed in an area of four miles in diameter from which they first expel the

guerrillas and then establish themselves among the local inhabitants.

Once this is done the area under their control is gradually enlarged. The aim is to establish a chain of interlocking "green areas" so that the guerrillas are completely neutralized in that region.

Major Fawcett produced a map covered in rings showing "green areas" which had been established in the heavily populated tribal areas around Fort Victoria since last summer. In Ndonga tribal trust land he estimated that almost a quarter of the 120,000 inhabitants were now covered by "green areas".

Mr Smith to face challenge by two liberals

From Our Own Correspondent
Salisbury, Jan 24

Mr Ian Smith, leader of Southern Rhodesia's 220,000 whites, faces a three-way contest in next month's election to fill the 20 white seats in the country's 100-seat Parliament.

When nominations closed today, Mr Johannes Huley and Mr Don Speedie, two white liberal independents, were listed as facing Mr Smith in the small rural constituency of Selukwe.

The Rhodesian Front is fielding candidates for all 20 white seats. In all but six of them the Front's candidates are unopposed. The only seat where the party could face serious competition is the Salisbury constituency of Mount Pleasant where Mr Chris Andersen, the Front's candidate and former Minister of Justice, is opposed by Mr Nick McNally, an independent.

Mr McNally is a leader of the liberal National Unity Force (NUF) although it recently announced that it was not contesting the election.

Bishop Abel Muzorewa's United African National Council (UANC) has decided not to field any white candidates as originally planned.

It is understood the main reason for this change of heart is that the Rhodesian Front is considering forming a coalition with the UANC after next month's election in order to prevent Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) from coming to power.

A group of Commonwealth observers, drawn from 11 nations, arrived in Salisbury today to watch next month's election.

Meanwhile pressure for the release of the 71 dissident members of Zanu (PF) held in Mozambique has continued to mount.

It was announced today that Lord Soames, the Governor, had sent a letter to President Machel of Mozambique, urging him to secure their release by this Sunday, the day that Mr Mugabe intends to return to Salisbury.

Orphaned at 5.
On the streets at 6.

In Bangladesh, one of the very poorest countries on earth, is a town called Chittagong.

It is a special town because someone very special lives there—a priest called Father Dujurrier.

He never thinks about himself. Never spares himself.

He is too busy helping the Street Boys, the orphaned beggars

who, without Father Dujurrier, would have no home, no hope and no one to care for them.

They have no mothers or fathers. Yet in a way they do have a father—Father Dujurrier.

And he cares, very, very much.

He takes them in off the streets into his school, where they are given a basic education. Then they are streamed into further training courses in which they are taught a trade.

These boys go on to get good jobs and their future is secure, in the most insecure land on earth.

This is truly wonderful work. Important work.

It is not one-off help but long term work, because the grants from Oxfam have helped pay for the necessary tools and equipment.

This is why Oxfam are so pleased to support Father Dujurrier and many other self-help projects all over the world.

There's so much more to Oxfam than most people realise.

Why not send for our interesting leaflets and find out more about what Oxfam really does?

I'm interested. Please send me more information about Oxfam's work in the poor countries.

Name _____

Address _____

I enclose a donation of £ _____ in the meantime.
Room 13, Oxfam, 274 Banbury Rd., Oxford OX2 7DZ.

PARLIAMENT, January 24, 1980

Lord Carrington sets out British measures against Russia in protest at invasion of Afghanistan

House of Lords
The Government has decided to avoid high level and ministerial contact with the Soviet Union in protest at its invasion of Afghanistan, Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, announced in a statement.

The Government, he added, believed that the Olympic Games should be moved from Moscow and could be held in several different countries if necessary. Lord Carrington said: "The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan is an event of the widest significance. For the first time since the Second World War, Soviet troops have been used in massive numbers outside Europe to establish a military hold on a sovereign, non-aligned country."

The Soviet action is a breach of all the conventions which have governed East-West relations for the last decade. It is a vivid demonstration of the Soviet drive to gain wider influence wherever possible, by propaganda, by subversion, and where necessary by force.

Together with the arrest of the Nobel Peace Prize winner, Dr Sakharov, it reflects cynical disregard for world opinion. It is bound to affect our attitude in current and future negotiations between East and West though we naturally want those to continue where they clearly serve our own interests as well as those of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan.

The West itself needs to find ways to make the Russians understand that they cannot break the rules of international behaviour with impunity, either now or in the future. This entails responses by individual countries, and by the West's collective organisations, above all by Nato and the European Community.

The British credit agreement, concluded by the Labour Government in 1975, expires on February 16. Its terms were too favourable to the Soviet Union since the export credit was subsidised more than that which we extend to other countries.

The Government's view is that all trade should be pursued on a basis of mutual advantage. We shall apply this principle to British-Soviet trade. We do not

propose to renew the credit agreement when it expires. Credit in future will have to be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Assuming that other western countries do likewise—which would be very much to our collective advantage—we shall not provide export credit to the Soviet Union at rates more favourable than those set by the international consensus on credit terms.

On technology, we are studying with other countries the tighter application of the COCOM rules for controlling the transfer of sensitive technology to the Soviet Union.

The European Community has decided to export arms to the Soviet Union which would directly or indirectly replace supplies denied by the United States.

The Government has also decided to avoid high level and ministerial contacts with the Soviet Union for the time being. They will cancel military exchanges, which were under consideration. They will avoid the kind of cultural and sporting events which would give an impression that nothing has changed and thus appear to condone Soviet aggression.

In accordance with the agreement between the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the BBC, I have approved an increase in broadcasts by the External Services of the BBC to listeners in the Soviet Union and Afghanistan.

It is now time to the question of the Olympic Games. Her Majesty's Government sympathises deeply with the Olympic ideal and the people from all over the world should be able to compete freely together with no overtones of politics.

But this view has never been shared by authoritarian governments, which exploit such events for propaganda purposes.

In 1936 for the Nazi government, so now for the Soviet Union the Olympic Games are a major political tool. It is time to consider the whole world with the prestige of the system.

For the Games now to be held in Moscow would appear to condone Soviet aggression abroad and repression at home.

But for the Games to be cancelled entirely would be a bitter blow to the athletes, in Britain and elsewhere, who have trained so hard for so many years.

This is why the British Government believes that the Summer Games should be moved. That will not be easy. But it should not be beyond the capacity of the 104 countries which condemned the Soviet Union in the United Nations last week.

If necessary the games could be held in more than one country. The Prime Minister has accordingly urged the British Olympic Association to approach the International Olympic Committee to propose that the summer games be moved from Moscow.

The Government is fully prepared to help with arrangements for those parts of the games which might be held in this country.

I do not conceal from the House that recent Soviet actions in Afghanistan and at home are not happy news for the future. They undermine much of what has been achieved over the past decade and more to provide the kind of stable and mutually satisfactory relationship between East and West.

They underline the need, above all, to develop political solidarity among the members of the European Community and between the members of the North Atlantic Alliance. It is from that political solidarity, and from the defensive arrangements which accompany it, that our dealings with the Russians have to start.

But both East and West live on one planet. The consequences of serious miscalculation on the part of either side are too disastrous for many of its inhabitants.

It is right that the Russians should be made to understand that we do not intend to avoid miscalculation in future. But it is also right that we should where possible continue the search for arms control agreements, commercially justified trade, and other arrangements of mutual benefit.

Both we and the Russians need a sound East-West relationship. But the Russians must understand that there can be no such relationship so long as they have as outrageously as they have done in Afghanistan.

Danger from subversion still equal to that of invasion

House of Commons

After Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal, had repeated the statement on Afghanistan, Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar, Lab), said: "I want to emphasise that our condemnation of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has not changed one jot since the Lord Privy Seal made the first statement on January 14. (Cheers.)"

The arrest of Dr Sakharov and other human rights protesters has only sharpened it. I see no reason why the Western world should continue to make preferential arrangements with the USSR but can the Lord Privy Seal assure the House that any British action here would not simply be negated by other western countries? Would he make it plain that we distinguished in this matter between the Soviet Union and other countries in eastern Europe, many of which oppose current Soviet policies?

Mr Gilmour: I doubt if there is anyone who does not think that a size other than Moscow should have been chosen in the first place. I am satisfied that this agreement to the Olympic Committee, the sporting authorities, and other countries, that there is a change of venue effective?

It is not clear that there is no consensus for the old fashion of the role of nuclear weapons in the arms race. It is not clear that we must ensure that our help to react sensibly to this threat.

Mr Julian Amery (Brighton, Pavilion, C): The invasion of Afghanistan following on the military occupation of Ethiopia and Aden implies that the threat to southern Africa from the Soviet Union is not only a direct one but also a subversive and to the directly military.

Has he noted President Carter's statement that if need arise, the United States would be prepared to defend the Gulf area by force. Can the Lord Privy Seal assure us that the Government has considered the different ways in which we might help our American allies if the need arises?

Sir Ian Gilmour—I agree the Soviet behaviour in Afghanistan is a common cause for concern. It is a common approach in Nato and has not yet achieved it. Can he indicate what he has on this?

Could he also say something on reports that Mrs Gandhi is prepared to make up the shortfall of United States grain?

Sir Ian Gilmour—On Nato it is a bit unfair to say we have been trying to make it up. It is an alliance which would take longer to come to an agreed view than individual countries.

Mr Russell Johnston (Inverness, L): A month ago the Government initiated a common approach in Nato and has not yet achieved it. Can he indicate what he has on this?

Could he also say something on reports that Mrs Gandhi is prepared to make up the shortfall of United States grain?

Sir Ian Gilmour—That is for the Government to decide. It is a common approach in Nato and has not yet achieved it. Can he indicate what he has on this?

On the Olympics, it remains to be seen how much support we will gain for the stand that the United States, ourselves and other countries have taken. The Soviet Union is at least a promising start.

We are not going back to the age of the 19th century when the world was divided into spheres of influence. We are not going back to the age of the 19th century when the world was divided into spheres of influence.

I welcome the renewed interest that the United States is taking in this area. We must ensure that our help to react sensibly to this threat.

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fall of grain. So far as I know, it is not true that the Soviet Union is giving a guarantee to the Gulf States and reactivating the register of those eligible for the draft.

Sir Ian Gilmour—I do not think it altogether fair in talking about the inadequacy of our response. There is a limited amount one country can do. I think it may be said that we are keeping in close contact with the United States about the Gulf.

Mr Robert Croyer (Kilgobbin, Lab): The attitude of many Conservatives in condemning Russia rests uneasily on their shoulders when they supported to the hilt the Vietnam war. Vietnam, which was far more bloody, serious and damaging.

Sir Ian Gilmour—I fall to see any serious distinction between the Soviet invasion of Vietnam and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Mr Eileen Gifford (Bury St Edmunds, C): The greatest danger is misreading the Soviet Union. The one sure way of making sure that the Soviets do not miscalculate would be the military force in the Arabian Sea and the reintroduction of at least the preparation to reinforce it.

It was not possible to say exactly what a new force would cost, but a total capital cost in the range of £1,000m to £1,500m would be a realistic estimate. It would be of that magnitude.

The spending of that vast sum would be spread over a long period, some 10 or 15 years, and the peak rate of annual expenditure would come towards the end of the 1980s.

During the years of the main capital spending the acquisition of any new system would be unlikely to absorb much more than about 5 per cent of the defence budget on average.

That is of course (he said) still a massive demand on our limited resources. It is in the perspective of what modern defence provision inescapably costs.

Operating Britain's present, strategic nuclear force was exceptionally economical in Service manpower which was significant because the high rate of manpower increases in the retail price index.

There is no prospective alternative defence system which would be a key contribution to Alliance security which no other member in practice was able to make.

Mr William Rodgers, chief Opposition spokesman (Tottenham, C), said: "The information given by Mr Fyfe on the Polish replacement was inadequate for them to discuss options and decide whether the Government had made the right decision when the time came."

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Mr Hugh Fraser (Stafford and Stone, C): Admirable though the many things done in response to this military aggression are, they are inadequate. Would he consider further consultations with Mrs Thatcher to meet response to make to President Carter who is giving a guarantee to the Gulf States and reactivating the register of those eligible for the draft.

Sir Ian Gilmour—I do not think it altogether fair in talking about the inadequacy of our response. There is a limited amount one country can do. I think it may be said that we are keeping in close contact with the United States about the Gulf.

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Defence Secretary although when I was concerned with the Forces they did not welcome such an idea.

I agree that miscalculation is the greatest danger and that part of the result of Soviet strength over the last decade has been that we have been able to take these risks which in previous years she could not.

I am not convinced that the presence of a Soviet strength over the last decade has been that we have been able to take these risks which in previous years she could not.

Mr Peter Tappin (Hornsea, C): There is widespread support for Mr Hugh Fraser, that while the action taken is admirable it does not go nearly far enough.

Will the Government seek to ensure that our front line in South Asia that overlying rights needed to maintain and strengthen Soviet forces in South Yemen will be denied to them.

Sir Ian Gilmour—We need a sustained effort to ensure that our front line in South Asia that overlying rights needed to maintain and strengthen Soviet forces in South Yemen will be denied to them.

Mr Frank Allam (Salford, East, Lab): Many of us are against what is happening in Afghanistan and against the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan because they widen the breach between East and West.

Sir Ian Gilmour—Of course there is a breach but it is because of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, not because of our measures which are Conservative MPs think inadequate.

Pay settlements which companies could not afford to make, led to higher prices, redundancies or bankruptcies, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said in a speech.

He said he would not be satisfied with the average level of wage increases until wage and price inflation had been successfully brought under control.

Mr John Evans (Newson, Lab): As the Government in general and Sir Geoffrey Howe in particular have been responsible for creating a rate of inflation of over 17 per cent, he has no right to protest about working people attempting to protect themselves by wage increases against the current level of inflation.

Sir Geoffrey Howe—The level of inflation is due to a large number of causes including, not insignificantly, the high rate of money growth we inherited from the last government.

One of the central propositions which sadly must be understood is that the Government cannot guarantee any worker or group of workers the right to pay increases which protect their employment and the value of their money wages.

The pay increases which people can reasonably expect are those upon which they can sensibly bargain in the context of the resources of the company, by which the Government can guarantee any worker or group of workers the right to pay increases which protect their employment and the value of their money wages.

Backing for friends in SW Asia

Lord Gorman-Roberts, for the Opposition, questioning Lord Carrington, said they strongly supported the clear and forthright denunciation on grounds of international law and morality of events in Afghanistan. At the same time they hoped that the purposes of detente and disarmament would continue to be pursued exactly as President Carter made clear in his State of the Union message. It was more than ever necessary that there should be a strong democratic initiative for real detente and disarmament.

Lord Gladwin (L) said detente had suffered a severe blow. The probability must be recognised that the Soviet Government had now found itself strong enough to throw down the gauntlet to the West.

Lord Carrington said the Government shared President Carter's views. There had been a great deal of discussion in Nato and the Community about what action should be taken and it would be a mistake to underestimate the unanimity in both organisations.

He did not feel that the reaction of either the Community or Nato had in any sense lent comfort to the Soviet Union. It was a vivid demonstration of the Soviet drive to gain wider influence wherever possible, by propaganda, by subversion, and where necessary by force.

It would be foolish to deny that the atmosphere for detente had been soured. Lord Gladwin (Lab), asked if the Soviet motive for attacking Afghanistan was a desire to get hold of Iranian oil.

Lord Carrington said the Soviet motives were complex. His judgment was that the opportunity would be open for the Russians, should they so wish, to expand by subversion and other means in any direction they cared to.

Lord Wigg (Lab) said that in May, 1959, the government of the day introduced a measure to register young men. It was not a question of call-up but registration to enable the government at short notice to take steps to improve the quantity and quality of the Armed Forces. Britain was the only country in Nato incapable of expanding at short notice.

Lord Carrington—I do not think the Government feels that the situation at the moment makes it necessary to re-introduce conscription or anything of that kind.

The Government is increasing spending on defence. That is extremely important. What we will obviously have to do in the light of what has happened in the area of South-West Asia is to keep our defence policy in that area under review.

We must contribute to the security of our friends with equipment and military training and with the periodical employment of naval, air and land forces in the area, but I do not think we see at present any need to re-establish a substantial permanent United Kingdom military presence in the area.

Lord Alport (C) asked if the Government intended to give Pakistan increased economic aid in the near future.

Lord Carrington—The problems of Pakistan are both economic and political. It is the Government's intention this year to increase aid to Pakistan. We shall be giving something in the region, all told, of the equivalent of £30m.

Mr Peter Teague-Morris (Leominster, C) asked if the Government was considering a single appeal from any member of the Opposition Front Bench to end the steel strike, bearing in mind the effect on jobs in the public and private sectors.

Mr Carrington—I have noticed no effort whatsoever from the Opposition to end the steel strike. I am concerned at the number of people who have good jobs, who risk losing them by going on strike, and who strike themselves out of a job.

Mr Carrington (Cardiff South-East, Lab)—Her policy of doing nothing in this strike is a policy of inaction. It is a policy of inaction. It is a policy of inaction. It is a policy of inaction.

The last 12 days in which Mr Bill Styr has been attempting to hold in a strike by the private sector has been utterly wasted by her and the Government. His executive is meeting this afternoon in order to ratify the strike so it can take place on Sunday because there has been no intervention.

On Monday in South Wales, we are likely to see almost a complete stoppage of work as a result of the combination of pay and closures. The steel industry is the heart of the country, of which she is head, has no moral right to sit back whilst this creeping paralysis spreads across the country.

Mr Carrington knows it is the desire of everybody to see this strike at an end. She must know that she will have to realise she has direct responsibility, not that she meets these people and sends them away, but to practise conciliation herself.

Mr Carrington—As there is no dispute whatsoever between the workers in the private sector of steel and their employers, it is not Mr Carrington who will do everything he can to discourage these men from going on strike. (Conservative cheers.)

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Leaders in clash on steel strike

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Successor to Polaris force might cost from £4,000m to £5,000m

For good or ill they lived in a world where nuclear weapons existed and although they sought increasingly to control them in various ways they could not do so. "I am not going back to the age of the 19th century when the world was divided into spheres of influence."

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The heavy price of excessive pay rises

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More information must be given

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John Huston's
"WISE BLOOD"
"ABSOLUTELY NOT TO BE MISSED"
-THE ORISFIER

Michael Shanks on why the European Parliament should share some real power

Now let Euro-MPs use their muscle

Among the great works of literature lost to the world through the temporary closure of the British Museum in 1973 was a piece I wrote on the European Parliament, looking ahead to the then-forthcoming direct elections. It is interesting to compare what I wrote with what has actually happened.

My main theme was that the hopes being placed by supporters of European federation on a directly-elected European Parliament to provide the motor for the next stage of integration were likely to be frustrated. For this thesis I advanced two main reasons.

The first was that the militant "pro-Europeanism" of the parliament, which made it the natural ally of the commission against member governments, was, to some extent, caused by its lack of power and the fact that its members were not directly elected, and thus were not subject to the pressures of constituents back home who did not necessarily share their European enthusiasms.

Since membership of the European Parliament was an optional extra for national MPs, it tended to attract the enthusiasts for Europe since it had little or no power, its enthusiasms were tolerated by those who did not share them. This would change once the parliament became an important institution. It would then start to mirror much more the conflicting attitudes and priorities of the peoples of the Community, and cease to be a single-minded pressure-group for integration.

My second reason for scepticism was precisely the very limited powers which the Treaty of Rome gives to the parliament: the fact that it cannot initiate or approve legislation (the former function is reserved to the Council of Ministers and ultimately national legislatures); that its influence on the budget was limited—as was then believed—to certain items of expenditure, notably not including the Common Agricultural Policy; that it has no say in the appointment of the commissioners or their staffs, or in the allocation of portfolios within the Commission.

While it can summon commissioners to appear before it, it has no authority to sanction members of the Council of Ministers who hold the ultimate power.

The parliament, in other words, has been regarded up to now as an essentially advisory body, with the right of consultation on individual draft directives emanating from the Commission but little else. It did not seem to me that this relative powerlessness was understood by the electorates who would be voting for a European Parliament during 1979; so the elections could arouse extravagant expectations which could lead to disillusion and cynicism when the realities of power became clear.

However, the other development which I foresaw once a directly-elected parliament was in place, was a demand by the parliament for more powers—demands which would be resisted by most of the member governments (particularly

France and the United Kingdom), and which would thus precipitate a series of constitutional crises within the Community, of the kind which led to the civil war in England in the seventh century—a direct clash, in other words, between the executive and the legislature.

How far have these expectations been realized? First, what I called in my article "the perfunctory infectiousness of nationalism" do not seem to have attacked the parliament as quickly as I had expected. This may be because the link between Euro-MPs and their constituents is still rather shadowy and tenuous. One does not get the impression that Euro-MPs are under much pressure from the folks back home to protect their particular interests against the encroachment of other sectors of the Community.

But this may simply reflect the novelty of the concept, and/or the realization that power still lies with the Commission and the national governments, and that lobbying is best directed to the centres of real power.

Second, the parliament has indeed moved with speed and skill to wrest some power from the executive. In so doing it has discovered within the interstices of the Rome Treaty levers which few people (certainly not I) had realized existed. It was always known that the parliament had the power to dismiss the whole Commission—though not individual Commissioners. This was always seen as being such a clumsy weapon that it was very unlikely to be used.

But it was not appreciated, until an astute Euro-MP discovered it, that parliament also had the right to reject the entire budget—not just, as was previously thought, those parts of the budget designated as "optional expenditure" (essentially, the regional and social funds and overseas aid). It was on this battleground that the parliament launched its attack on the executive, aiming specifically at a reduction in spending on the Common Agricultural Policy.

This move has thrown the other Community institutions into a state of confusion. It was chosen as an extremely popular one, so a Europe neurotic

When the parliament exercises some control over the bureaucracy, the EEC will have come of age

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about inflation and especially about escalating food prices. It is significant that the British Euro-MPs voted solidly for the budget's rejection, despite their hostility to the idea of parliamentary power. Virtually only the French Gaullists and communists voted against.

Second, the response of governments has been confused by their attitude to the CAP and their attitude to parliament. France, which likes the CAP and is pledged to resist parliamentary power, has taken a predictably strong line against the Parliament.

Britain, divided in its hostility to the CAP and its wish to preserve the authority of the executive, has followed a particularly craven and illogical line.

At the very moment when it was trying to persuade other EEC governments to agree to a major reduction in the United Kingdom's budgetary contribution, the British Government, in the Council of Ministers, voted down a proposal from Italy and Holland which by following the parliament's line would have achieved the same effect. It is not surprising that our friends on the continent sometimes find it difficult to take statements made by the British Government seriously.

Obviously a compromise has to be reached fairly soon on the budget between the council and the parliament; hopefully the revised budget will, *inter alia*, have the effect of easing the EEC budgetary cost to Britain. But in the long run the interesting question is the future role and powers of the parliament, clearly in a fairly rapid process of evolution.

In my article at the end of 1978 I advocated that the parliament should be given authority over the whole of the Community budget; that it seems to have achieved already *de facto*. But there is no reason why the change in the power structure should stop there. There is no reason why a directly elected parliament should not have the right, along with the Commission, to initiate legislative proposals. There is no reason why it should not have the right to approve or reject the appointment of new commissioners and to dismiss commissioners who fail to satisfy it by their performance.

Equally, there is no reason why it should not have the authority to approve or reject agreements reached between the EEC and third countries, including the admission of new members to the EEC.

In other words, a directly elected legislature should share real power in the Community with the national governments and legislatures, and should exercise some control over the bureaucracy—the Commission.

When that has happened, the Community may be said to have finally come of age.

Thus the outcome of the present conflict between the parliament and council on the budget is important for its impact on inflation, on the cost of EEC membership to Britain, on the future of Europe's farm policy; but it is also critically important as a test of the way Europe's institutions are evolving.

Shah. Indeed the similarity of many of the words and phrases of adulation and flattery is comical.

There can now be no imperialist-style solution which is, it seems, reserved for Moscow. However, we can unite the many Iranians who sooner or later will try to liberate their country. The West gives them little help or encouragement when they very much need it.

More than most they like to be on the winning side.

Related to this is the fact that the Shah has suffered enormous and unjustified vilification, even in the responsible press, and yet has said little in his defence. Other than Ayatollah Khomeini, he is the only acknowledged leader that Iranians have and he remains the loyalist of the armed forces outside the country and his officers command those forces within it. Above all he left his country rather than suppress it which he could well have done.

Able people, such as Dr Shapur Bakhtiari, are available for more political roles but the good old Iranian figurehead will be needed somewhere. If it is not the Shah himself, perhaps in the name of his son, such a figure will have to appear.

In this situation, the West must act in its own interest and encourage its friends. Instead of gossiping through western eyes about the Shah's past, people should reflect on the recent election of Mrs Gandhi. Instead of romanticizing about Islam we should look at the political realities. We need only ensure that forces representing some hope of a modern and democratic future for Iran are ready when the moment arrives.

If we don't do this we, and the West, may find ourselves faced with the eventual necessity of seizing the Iranian and perhaps other oil fields. At the least this would bring the Russians into Azerbaijan and mean a further partition of Iran. Iran does not deserve that.

Peter Temple-Morris

The author is Conservative MP for Leominster, secretary of the Conservative Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee, and a member of the British-Iranian Parliamentary Group, and a member of the Iran Society Council.



The Reading Room at the British Museum.

Growing pains at the British library

The campaign against the new British Library in Euston Road omits facts inconvenient to the argument, and its proponents are not "regular readers". The inadequacies of the present accommodation only become apparent after daily experience of inbuilt shortcomings inescapably part of the library's present physical limitations, and its future prospects.

Professor Hugh Thomas and Hugh Trevor-Roper (now Lord Dacre) are visiting aristocrats who do not sustain long periods of work in the Reading Room. The crux of the case for not building the library, centres around the preservation of the Reading Room because its gilded galleries and soaring dome are seen as a suitable environment for scholars. No one could disagree with this, but the preservation of the physical reality of the Reading Room is already assured.

It was never envisaged that the Reading Room would be dismembered or converted to philistine purposes. Beyond the physical reality, Professor Thomas's case rests on the use of the room exclusively for books and scholars. Sympathetic though one is to this ideal, the consequences of realizing what is, at root, a romantic conception, are too serious to contemplate.

Professor Thomas does not seem to realize that the Panizzi and Smirke Reading Room provides only 35 per cent of the reader places.

There are, in fact, six widely dispersed reading rooms in the library already occupies 17 buildings in London. For every book added to the collections another book has to be removed.

Roughly half the stock of the department is now housed at Woolwich. The problem of conservation of all requested books must be brought by van, multiplying the delivery time from one to two hours to one to two days and increasing the risk of damage.

Preservation has become a priority since large numbers of books need repair or rehabilitation. The problem of conservation is aggravated because the quality of the paper used for modern book production has deteriorated. The precise extent of book deterioration is known to only a few institutes and Professor Thomas does not appear to be aware of this.

Three of the most important preservation measures are reduction in book movement, freedom from atmospheric pollution and temperature control. None of these operates under present conditions, but all would be available in the new building at Euston Road. Because of its structure, the British Museum cannot accommodate air conditioning plant or efficient book-handling machinery, and service to readers is unacceptably labour intensive.

The stock of the Department of Printed Books occupies 200,000 metres of shelves and the general collection increased by 2,654 metres in 1978-9. World growth in serious book publishing means a three per cent increase in the number of books every year and if you take the stock as approximately 10 million volumes that means 300,000 new volumes every year.

For the rest, the campaign against the new library claims that large sums of money—£160m or more—would be saved by suspending operations on the new building, if not abandoning the whole project. Superficially the case is good, but cuts in the total immediate expenditure would be made, indeed dictated, by phasing the building stages.

The estimate of 12 years for completing the building ensures that the financial burden in any one year would be relatively small. Instead of the much flourished £160m, the final design report estimates that up to the end of the financial year 1982/3, only 23.5 per cent would have been expended of the cost of stage 1a, or approximately £19m. This places in perspective any role which the new library could play in the short-term management of the economy or restraint in public spending.

Vincent Brome

Last week at Aswan, the Egyptian President revived the "Gaza first" formula and dressed it up in a new way, suggesting this time that any generally agreed form of autonomy should initially be implemented first in Gaza before later being introduced on the West Bank. Mr. Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, duly agreed to present the Cabinet suggestion to his Cabinet, without giving any sign whether he was for or against it.

Although less far-reaching than the original plan, the revised "Gaza first" idea is still

This, it has been argued, is no problem at all because deep storage, below the British Museum, could be built to accommodate the overflow, or it could be distributed to out-houses in the neighbourhood. The shortcomings of out-housing are already clear and need no further analysis. Deep storage below the museum evokes horrifying pictures of the beautiful and preserved building tottering as engineers try to underpin its superstructure while book-moles burrow miles of shelves underneath.

Alternatively, Professor Thomas suggests that the library should use the Euston Road site as a book store depot, shuttling books to and from the Reading Room, but we have already seen that daily movement of all books would endanger the condition of the considerable number which are either rare or very frail.

Searching for new arguments, the campaign has resurrected a long dead idea which the initiators thought suitably buried years ago. The library, it is argued, should return to its original plan to sweep away the housing, pubs and community surrounding the museum and develop the new building on the Bloomsbury site for which it originally asked, linking the old with the new by underground means.

Those who survived the battle between Camden Council, the British Museum and the government over many years will remember that a fully developed proposal was submitted by ministers and planning authorities and rejected.

It was a choice between books and people, between disturbing a whole community and satisfying the requirements of scholars. Ministers in both Labour and Conservative governments opted for people. The Dawson Committee which sifted evidence for several years also came out in 1969 flatly against Professor Thomas, declaring that a new library building was an immediate requisite if the research needs of the country were to be maintained and developed, and the unique collections preserved.

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Why Iran needs a new figurehead and the West a new strategy

While understanding the United States concern for the hostages it would be encouraging to believe that some sort of strategy was developing for the overall geo-political problem of Iran, the Middle East, and the oil supplies of the West.

Instead the actions or rather reactions of the US Administration are held in contempt in Tehran as they are surely ineffectual in Moscow. However, try as we may, the fact remains that the Russian chess and wrongs upon the feelings of the Third World, including Iran, must include both fear and respect. Now, by far the most important prize is Iran because once it is won it is only a matter of time before the rest of the Gulf will follow.

First and foremost among the basic realities within Iran is the extremely bad economic situation. A diminishing oil revenue is being used to finance large scale unemployment or to pay for unproductive work that represents little more than occupational therapy.

After the economy comes the quality of leadership. The Iranian church simply does not have the capacity to govern. Another factor is that foreign skills will have to be imported on an increasing scale. Palestinians are already coming in with obvious policies for the future.

Further, if the Government cannot provide the economic goodies it will hardly sustain the mass of the people by dull theocracy and executing women for adultery. The most important single point about all this is that the longer it goes on the more communism will become synonymous with order and freedom.

Next, it is relevant to consider the various power centres within Iran that could, in an appropriate combination, affect the issue.

First the church. This is divided between the Ayatollah Khomeini and Shariat Madari. As has been seen recently the latter has a considerable following, not only in the powerful



Ayatollah Khomeini and Ayatollah Shariat Madari: between them they control the church.



power base and Admiral Mahdani who does have links with the armed forces will probably not win for that reason.

In addition to those in government the middle class movement of Matine-Dafary (National Democratic Front) would undoubtedly give intellectual support and leadership to any western-orientated change, whereas the Tudeh party and other communists are already active within all the mentioned areas.

In assessing our response to all this we have to realize two basic facts about Iran and its people. As a result of various conquests and their general history they are fatalistic and willing to accept more than most as well as blame everyone but themselves.

They also need some sort of figurehead or leader. It is no accident that Ayatollah Khomeini has been revered since the sort of reverence only 18 months ago reserved for the

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"One less Redbrick would be no tragedy..."

...One strong Buckingham would be a beacon of independence from politics in British scholarship?

So says Arthur Seldon, co-director of The Institute of Economic Affairs, in a powerful feature that goes right to the heart of every campus with his personal interpretation of "The conservative Left ethos of British higher education."

Also in this week's Times Higher Education Supplement:

- * Ivan Roots on History Journals.
- * Arthur Suddaby on why government spending cuts are a good thing.
- * John Durant on the Darwin industry.

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Every Friday.

GAZA DIARY

"For Gaza shall be forsaken", the Old Testament prophet Zephaniah once warned. "We unto the people of the sea coast." For the great majority of the 460,000 Palestinian inhabitants of the narrow rectangle of desert land now referred to as Gaza Strip, it is a prophecy that still rings uncomfortably true in 1980.

Originally created in 1948 as the only piece of Palestine that the Egyptian army could salvage after fighting ineffectually against the creation of the state of Israel, the strip is dominated by the sprawling Arab town of Gaza. With its squalor, open sewers, chronic overcrowding and ever visible poverty, the area provides a constant reminder to outsiders that nearly half of its inhabitants are refugees.

Although under Israeli occupation since the bloody battles of the Six Day War in June, 1967, Gaza has the unmistakable feel and appearance of Egypt. The battered cinemas advertise soap operas filmed in Cairo, most of the textbooks used in the schools are Egyptian. Matriculation certificates are issued by the Egyptian Ministry of Education and at the animated black currency market on the dusty corner of Omar el-Mukhtar Street, Egyptian notes change hands at a bewildering rate.

Because of the legacy of 19 years of Egyptian rule and the all-pervasive influence of

Egyptian culture, it has often been assumed by outside observers that at the very least, the Arabs of Gaza could be counted on to react enthusiastically to the Camp David agreement and the historic normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel which is due to take place on January 26. But both in public and in private, the reaction is now undisputedly hostile despite the apparent enthusiasm to take advantage of the promise of open frontiers to make family visits. At present, Gaza residents wishing to travel to neighbouring Egypt have to make a laborious journey via Jordan as the previous practice of arranging border crossings under the auspices of the International Red Cross has been stopped in the wake of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty.

Assessing the real attitudes of the Gaza Arabs has been made considerably harder since the brutal murder last year of the Imam of Gaza, Sheikh Hassan Bani-Nasser, who was strangled to death in the street as he walked home from evening prayers in the Mosque. Responsibility for the killing was later claimed by the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, one of the most extreme of the Palestinian terror groups, which made no secret of the fact that the attack had been carried out because of the Imam's outspoken support for President Sadat and the peace process.

If such views do in fact still exist among public figures in the region, they are no longer aired in public for understandable reasons of self preservation.

The most influential Gazan politician is Rashad A-Shawa, a wealthy merchant and land owner who has dominated local politics for many years and is generally regarded as one of the more moderate leaders in the Israeli occupied territories. "When the so-called normalization begins there will of course be many people from here anxious to make the journey to see friends and relatives in Egypt," Mr A-Shawa explained. "But does that mean that they are in favour of Camp David. Our people fear normalization because they think it will only enable Israel to create the right conditions for a self-determination for the Palestinians."

Unlike the mayors representing towns on the occupied West Bank of the Jordan, Mr A-Shawa and the other two mayors from the Gaza Strip were appointed to their posts by the Israeli military government rather than elected. The last election in Gaza took place under the British mandate in 1946. The ruling Egyptian and then Israeli authorities subsequently sharing a common fear about type of local leader who could be thrown up if the ballot box was permitted again. Certainly many of the younger men living in the region's nine huge refugee

camp regard Mr A-Shawa and his associates as much too gentlemanly in their approach to the unsolved Palestinian problem.

Little noticed outside Israel, one of the most significant political developments in recent months has been the unexpected rapprochement between Mr A-Shawa and the more radical and populist West Bank mayors. Originally encouraged as deliberate policy by leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the unity was really

forged late last year in reaction to the clumsy Israeli efforts to deport Bassam Shaka, the Arab mayor of Nab



A bombardment of chips lies in wait for the pirates

Technological advances are having profound effects on both industry and consumers and could solve some problems, Pearce Wright, Science Editor, writes.

The panoply of equipment such as magnetic tape decks, recorders, video cameras, and electronic boxes which form the world of audio-visual technology is undergoing a transformation. The reason is straightforward. It lies in the changeover from the traditional technique of reproducing sound and images as an analogue pattern to the newer process of digital recording.

Although the microchip is playing an important part in this transition, there are other major advances such as the use of laser technology, improvements in the reliability of magnetic materials and the development of more satisfactory television tubes which have combined to create a new generation of systems.

The technical and economic implications for the in-

dustry and the consumer are profound. For the manufacturers there are immense problems, part technical and part economic, to be resolved after some years of severe difficulty. For instance, digital technology could provide the answer to piracy and counterfeiting in the music recording business.

That menace has played its part in pushing companies like Decca and EMI, and many others in America and Europe, into the financial mire. But many more fundamental troubles extending from a general economic recession to industrial overcapacity are the real villains. Thus the manufacturing companies are seeking an expansion of the market to make good the deficit caused by piracy.

Hence the enthusiasm over an innovation such as

digital processing equipment which will allow, for example, the recording of sonically faultless discs and open a new market of equipment for playing and recording.

The same impact applies to the equipment that converts a moving television set into a more versatile unit whether it is for education and training, for home entertainment, or for use as part of a business system.

The introduction of the new systems for use with television has started, and will evolve more rapidly than audio-recording on discs for some technical reasons. The introduction of digital record players for the mass market depends on the acceptance of some technical standards about the way digital codes are going to be adopted. That is a question of the industry deciding how to share a responsibility between the manufacturers without incurring competitiveness.

Once the standards are accepted, the next issue becomes one of greater

importance to the consumer, for it embraces that sort of commodity for which the computer industry coined the phrase software.

In audio-visual equipment the software is the pre-recorded material whether it is an educational film, music or full length Hollywood production tailored for cassettes to be shown on a small screen. In the days when audio-visual meant apparatus for the lecture room of the college and management training centre, or for the presentation of a corporate image or technical product in a highly-polished marketing operation, a number of specialist organisations including publishers and film studios emerged to provide the software services. Some of the multinational corporations established their own studios and marketed some of the films they made initially for their own use.

The provision of similar services will perhaps be regarded by the consumer as the biggest challenge for the industry if it expects to create a great demand for the new digital systems.

Up to three years ago only professional users and a handful of enthusiasts knew much about the video recording methods which are used in equipment that is now in the retail shops and television sets. But for about 10 years a series of costly failures have happened among major companies in America, Japan and Europe in an attempt to reach the consumer market. Sales of video recorders in Japan and the United States are ahead of those in Europe. Nevertheless the market in Britain is developing steadily. After intensive promotion campaigns in 1978, the sales for that year were more than 85,000 and estimates for last year suggest that more than another 100,000 were distributed.

far more extensive in North America because of the shortage of professionally produced material suitable for businesses and colleges in the United Kingdom.

Yet there is evidence of companies in Britain becoming increasingly aware of the importance of video communications through the videotext system of the Prestel system of the Post Office, and a wide variety of other forms of computer generated videotexts in banks, factories, insurance companies, government offices and shops. With television displays already available for these purposes, the addition of specially produced audio-visual recordings for training and the dissemination of library information is expected to be a natural progression.

A pointer to the future is the scheme to be launched by IBC of its MirrorVision project of videograms, which will give the best known of writers a new medium to work in. This is a service being developed for existing cassettes, but its

scope would be widened again with the coming videodiscs.

The potential scale of the market can be gauged by examining the collaborative arrangements being made by some of the most powerful companies in the world in electronics, communications, computers and broadcasting. Yet a tough battle is already in progress between the makers of videocassette machines that play through the normal television set. But fiercer competition is expected in making the videodisc recorders the phenomenon of the 1980s.

The question is whether the technical characteristics and price of the videodisc machines will yield the sort of advantage that the present generation of cassettes attained over the devices, produced seven or eight years earlier, which failed. Many large firms are still licking wounds from that affair. With hindsight, it is clear that they paid the penalty of pioneers who tried to push a technology too far and too fast.

Europe took up the first videocassette system called EVR, invented by CBS, for development by ICI and Ciba-Geigy. It was based on film cassettes. A processing plant was built at Ilford at Basildon, and Rank Rush

Murphy and other equipment manufacturers designed cassette players for the consumer market.

About the same time another development with a videodisc, called Teldec and devised by AEG-Telefunken, became a collaborative venture involving Decca and the consumer electronics subsidiary of the Axel Springer organisation.

The equipment was regarded as technically brilliant but lacking consumer appeal because the discs had a playing time of only 10 minutes. The amount commercially available for either system was also very limited.

With the knowledge from using the next generation of videocassettes and a limited experience with the newer videodiscs, it is not difficult to see the limitations of the

earlier projects. Even the quality of colour television screens has improved beyond recognition between the pioneering work and the present range of video systems.

A similar improvement may be necessary for the audio part of the television system if digital technology is going to be used to full effect. For the perfect sound recording method that is available with digital processing can only be reproduced if the other parts of the audio system are of the necessary quality.

The normal television set has a modest sound reproduction unit. The performance of the amplifiers and loudspeakers seems to satisfy most customers. But there are obvious limitations recognized by the cognoscenti; hence the use of two channels by the BBC occasionally in transmitting classical works on television and stereo radio simultaneously.

Cartoons by Nigel Peage.

Growth is in industry and commerce

Partly as a result of cuts in government spending on education, the industrial and commercial sectors account for more than 60 per cent of sales from up to 400 companies in Britain, Derek Harris, Commercial Editor, reports.

Nearly 250 companies with audio-visual interests are listed in the latest financial survey of the sector made by Inter Company Comparisons and some in the trade put the figure as high as 400. Except for a half dozen minnows, all the companies have turnovers of at least £100,000. Many of the larger ones have other interests besides the audio-visual market, but some that are concerned solely with audio-visual equipment have turnovers of £2m or more.

Five years ago it was educational needs which dominated the audio-visual market, accounting for possibly 65 per cent of sales in the United Kingdom while industry and commerce took the rest. But the effect of public expenditure cuts on educational spending together with a sharp growth in the industrial and commercial markets have almost reversed the situation.

In this changing market two sectors stand out as growth areas. One is the tailor-made individual presentation to cope with particular problems that arise in management-employee relations or to improve corporate communication, such as between top and middle management.

The other, probably the source of the greatest growth in sales value terms, is in point-of-sale marketing, ranging from films made for a few thousand pounds to others that because of shooting on international locations may need budgets of about £100,000. The point-of-sale growth has been helped by businesses that want to protect what the company is as well as what its products are.

World Wide Pictures, which uses all kinds of audio-visual techniques from film to video systems and slide-and-tape presentations, has watched what its marketing director, Mr Christopher Hope, describes as an enormous growth in audio-visual aids to instruction in do-it-yourself in the United States.

Research in the United States has suggested that demonstrations of any kind

of product on film has more impact than the typical live demonstration. However, this may be a large claim of the industry. In its latest survey, showing 10 different films which explain products and how to use them. Although the cost of this type of film is fairly low, the costs range on films is far wider than with videotape productions. At World Wide Pictures, video programmes do not often cost more than £12,000.

A recent film made by the company for a multinational telecommunications company cost £30,000 and involved filming in five countries. It will be used internationally to show what the company has to offer to potential buyers of telecommunications systems. A film for Atlas, Copco the Swedish compressed air products company which has a British subsidiary, is being shot in India, Mexico, the United States, Sweden and Britain. But there are films being made at the other end of the scale such as a car wash company or one costing £8,000 about diamonds.

The experience of World Wide Pictures, using all the audio-visual techniques, shows that film is still holding its own despite the incursion of video. Ten years ago 80 per cent of the company's turnover was accounted for by work on film and this still stands at 50 per cent with video at about 30 per cent, and 20 per cent accounted for by slide-and-tape.

Mr Hope describes slide-and-tape as an uncomfortable medium to distribute because of the complex and heavy equipment involved. Sometimes transferring such presentations to film is an answer to the distribution problem. There are also some networks abroad providing hardware.

Video systems too present their difficulties, one being the different and incompatible standards in the variety of systems used. "In most places there is still a 16mm film projector", Mr Hope

says. Film projectors such as 8mm desk models are still useful for the individual salesman on his travels.

Mr Hope's forecast is that video will grow but he does not see film going much below 40 per cent of the market. "It is still the most flexible medium for location work and to edit", he said.

The demand for presentations dealing with industrial and corporate relations has grown so much that 18 months ago World Wide Pictures took on a sociologist, Mr John Hemingway, to help to develop this side of the business. Mr Hemingway reckons that growth since then has probably quadrupled.

But the company has, for instance, for nearly four years been making three-monthly performance reviews for what was Chrysler UK and is now the Talbot car company. Films are shot on location, with interviews with workers and managers. At the time when British Leyland was having its ballot on the reorganization plan for the company, World Wide Pictures made within 24 hours a presentation for the heavy vehicles division that included a deliberately frank and forceful interview of the division's chief executive.

These things cannot be merely propaganda material", Mr Hemingway said. Such tailor-made films can cost as little as £5,000 or so but have not exceeded £20,000 so far. They are of particular value to companies which want to put issues to a workforce that may be spread around many units either throughout the United Kingdom or world-wide. A quarterly newsletter produced for BP includes contributions from places as far apart as New Zealand, Alaska and the North Sea, and shows 150 copies are sent round the world at BP locations.

Firms exploring particular management-employee relations do not solve any problems in themselves, Mr Hemingway says, but they do identify the areas for discussion more clearly, can fill information gaps and can give all sides a better appreciation of how each stands and why.

As Rank Audio Visual, Mr Ron Sharp, general manager for film services and photographic, finds that, despite the financial cuts in education, hardware such as film projectors are still selling.

continued on next page

THE THIRD WORLD

Sticks and stones have their place too

In assessing the impact of audio-visual methods around the world in the past decade, one would probably point to the bigger, better publicized projects: the satellite instructional television project in India, educational television in the Ivory Coast and El Salvador, Sesame Street, the Tanzanian radio campaigns, the Open University, the Nicaraguan radio mathematics project.

There are few Third World countries which have not made use of audio-visual media; but the prolific data available about some of the important projects is not matched by data on, say, frequency of use of overhead projectors or language laboratories in Third World universities or institutes of higher education, the availability of tape recorders in classrooms, or teacher access to basic reprographic equipment in schools.

One is therefore forced to generalize on the basis of experience and observation. Those who have worked overseas in Third World countries for much of their careers would probably agree that the situation is similar in all of them: teachers, especially outside the capital cities, have few resources and limited equipment. Felt-tip pens and supplies of card remain a luxury; reprographic equipment is scarce and difficult to maintain; film projectors may be seen only once in six months when a mobile van arrives at the village in a cloud of dust.

Teachers need to be trained to make imaginative use of what can be found in the environment: sticks and stones and traditional artefacts as well as the waste materials of the consumer society, bottle caps and tin cans. Teacher-training, whether pre-service or in-service, is often supported by the development of local teachers' resource centres, is arguably more important than the establishment of factories to produce elaborate equipment and models for classroom demonstration.

Curriculum developers in the teaching of science and English languages have long recognized the need to encourage teachers to make use of the local environment, but their influence has been limited. One feels that in the past two decades it would have been better to harness the newer audio-visual media to teacher-training than to dissipate so

much money and energy in premature and largely unmanageable large-scale educational television projects. If one could start again in January, 1960, one would hope that planners and educationalists would have the wisdom to place the greatest emphasis on the development of educational radio services, and that they would use film and broadcast television time in support of teacher-training and orientation towards the new curricula being developed or to develop the skills of producers in preparing non-formal or general education programmes for adults.

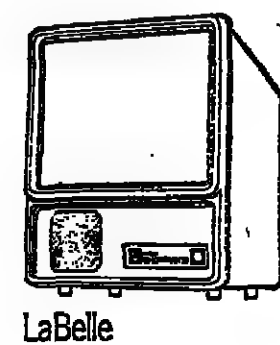
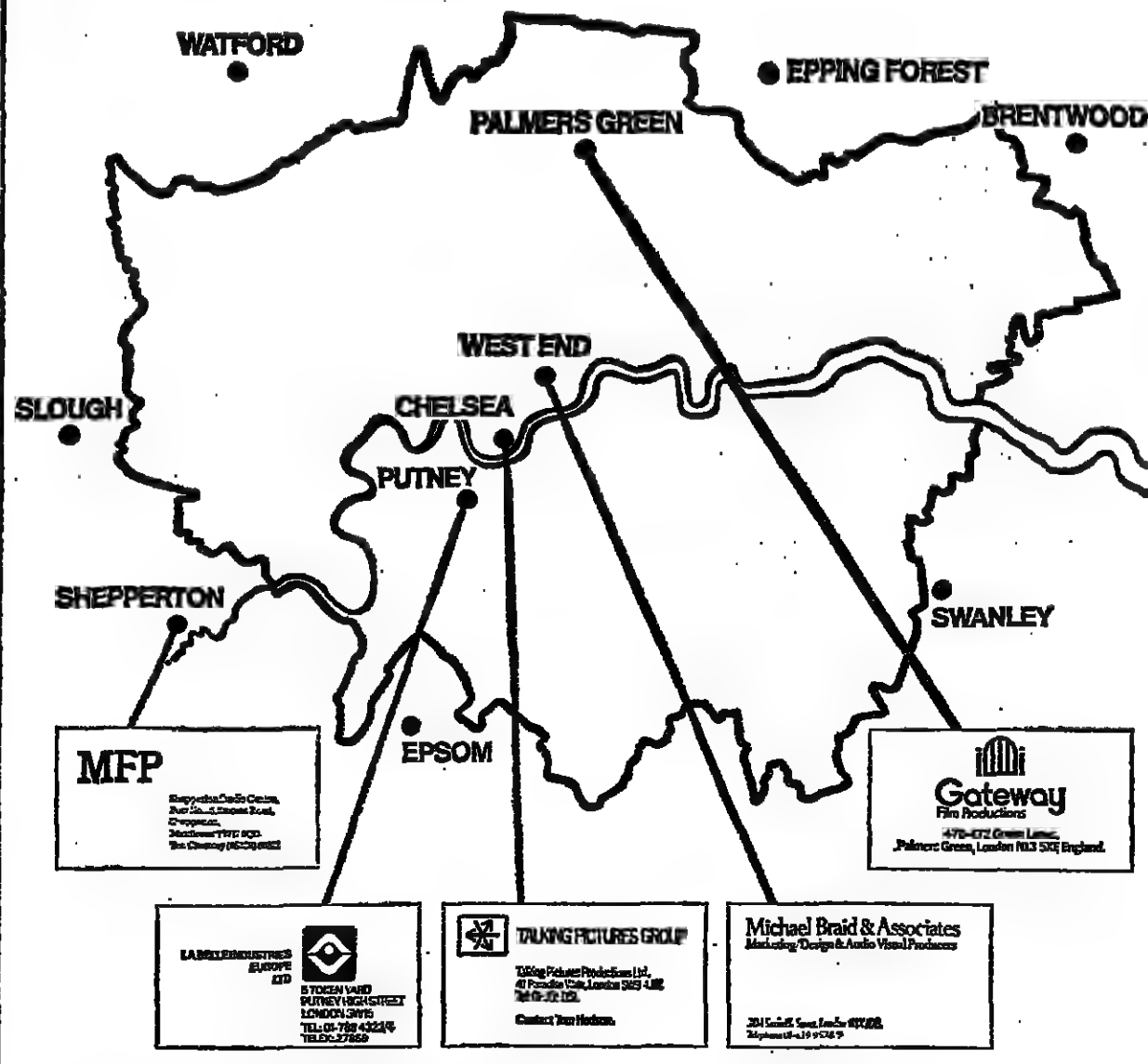
There has always been argument between advocates of high technology audio-visual media (for example film and television) and advocates of low-technology audio-visual media (everything from posters and tape-slides to puppets and reprographics) but the arguments have always seemed fruitless and misleading. Certainly a 16mm film is effective and economical if it persuades and teaches enough trainee-teachers to adopt a new curricular approach or if it helps enough sceptical farmers to understand why and how fertilizer could help them; but it may not make economic sense to equip each school or farmer's training centre with a projector, especially if there are only half a dozen locally-relevant films in existence.

Synchronized tape/slide presentations or sound filmstrips may be the ideal medium for training tractor maintenance technicians or credit disbursement officers in a large agricultural development project but they may be a failure if used as a cut-price substitute for motion pictures to reach the farmers. Posters are an effective communication tool in some areas of the Third World, but they may be incomprehensible and indecipherable in other areas and may also turn out to be very expensive if distribution costs are taken into account.

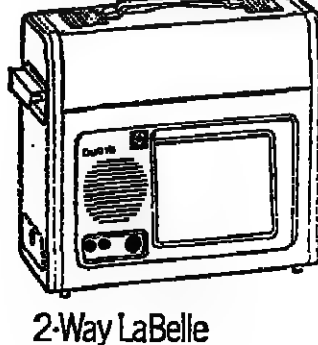
Fortunately there is now a much more widespread understanding of both the appropriateness and the specific characteristics of different audio-visual techniques, and a far greater degree of commitment to action research and formative evaluation of the materials produced. Many more producers and

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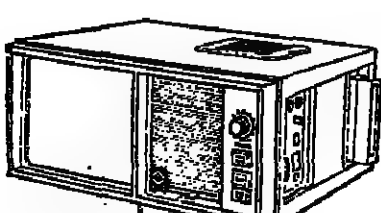
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AUDIO VISUAL

THE THIRD WORLD

Sticks and stones have their place too

continued from previous page

researchers in the Third World have taken account of the communication gap which separates them, as educated city-dwellers, from the people they are trying to communicate with.

In some cases village women have participated fully in the production of cassette tapes and tape slide shows intended for them. Researchers have become more familiar with the problems of production; producers are more conversant with the research concerning visual perception and comprehension.

A journal such as *Educational Broadcasting International* reflects the changes that have taken place and the wide range of audio-visual knowledge required of international educational communications advisers and trainers, such as those on the staff of the British Council's media department in London. Apart from the frequent overseas consultancy and training activities carried out by the department often in association with experts from other British organizations, many of the staff are involved with the programme of training courses devoted to educational radio and television and to audio-visual media production.

"Audio-visual media" is a phrase generally understood to refer to non-broadcast media, and the British Council course includes graphics, photography, videography (shooting, processing and printing), overhead projector techniques and transparency-making, colour transparency production for slide-tape programmes, and audio-recording, editing, mixing and synchronization. Communication theory, problems of audio and visual perception and techniques of evaluation are an integral part of the training programme.

Since most of the students come from Third World countries, it is vital that the council's staff have had first-hand experience of working in the media in such countries.

Aid policy, so far as it is formulated with reference to audio-visual media, tends to encourage local production. Assistance in the form of training, advisory services and development of production facilities, has been provided at a modest level throughout the past two decades, and Third World countries are making an increasing use of audio-visual media in every sector.

But local production capacity seldom equals demand for materials, especially when audio-visual centres or media services are called upon to make materials for a number of different ministries.

There will be a continuing demand for software produced in Britain and elsewhere, or by British companies which can produce it abroad. There are a large number of companies already established, with comprehensive catalogues of films, filmstrips and other materials, but relatively few of them produce equipment with the Third World in mind.

Information on audio-visual materials can be supplied by such organizations as the National Audio-Visual Aids Centre, the Scottish Council for Educational Technology, the British Universities Film Council and the British Educational Equipment Association.

Readers abroad are advised to address their enquiries to the representative of the British Council in the country concerned.

James Potts
Editor,
Educational Broadcasting International

Sales and marketing
Presentations demonstrate products' advantages to customers

Crisis-ridden as they were, the 1970s were particularly memorable for anyone involved in the business of selling audio-visual hardware, making programmes and using the techniques to improve communications.

Visual aids, as they had been known, had long been the tools of education and, to a limited extent, training. The documentary, or sponsored film, has been an important public relations tool since the hey-day of Grierson.

But during the 1970s the scene changed. Visual aids became audio visual—the automatic or semi-automatic presentation of images (on film or magnetic tape) in conjunction with a pre-recorded synchronized sound track.

Development has been fast, with audio-visual companies showing increases in turnover of 30 per cent or more for almost every year since 1975. More and more managers, whatever their particular areas of responsibility, are familiar with audio-visual techniques even if they are not users themselves.

Much of the impetus behind this growth and increased sophistication has come from sales and marketing. Giant car companies, competing to launch models which look more and more alike, started to produce spectaculars with thousands of slides and complex sound tracks. In an increasingly competitive world, training films and videotapes emerged to motivate salesmen and make sure that their skills were honed to a fine fighting edge. Commercial and audio-visual presentations have invaded everywhere from Virgin

Records to exclusive Bond Street boutiques and home improvement centres.

But it is not only technology and application skills that have benefited from the sales and marketing managements' desire to embrace audio-visual techniques. By using them on measurable short-term projects the marketing teams have been able to demonstrate, albeit in an empirical way, the effectiveness of various techniques.

In sales, audio-visual equipment's ability to produce a near-perfect presentation can be seen to reduce the salesman to a mere collector of orders; more truthfully, it allows him to concentrate on countering objections and making sure that he gets the order.

In face-to-face selling, particularly of services or large projects, briefcase style portable units have proved both effective and popular. Their use started in earnest in which it was often difficult, if not impossible, to demonstrate the real product to every potential client. Tanks and large earthmoving equipment, boats and computer systems are among the obvious subjects. But companies and salesmen soon found that slides or a film could demonstrate a product interestingly and effectively, convey complex arguments and really help to sell all kinds of services.

Complex arguments and sales lines often need more complex programmes to communicate them than the portable projection system can provide, and this is where the multivision presentation allied to a design concept would have been almost impossible to explain any other way.

But all costs are proportional. Addressograph-Multigraphics spent about £50,000 on a five-day tour of Britain launching a new range of offset printing machines. Its return came in the form of nearly five million orders before any other promotional activity had been carried out. At the other end of the scale Edwards of Enfield won awards with a five-minute film called *An Extrusion Puller Powered by a Linear Motor*. As well as winning awards the film sold machines whose sales staff on new products changes of targets, and changes in emphasis which the company wants to make.

As well as helping sales directly, audio-visual aids can be great image builders, helping a company, product or brand-name to maintain a marketing position.

There are many expressions of this sort of activity, extending from a kind of sponsorship whereby companies provide audio-visual programmes as exhibits at sites such as the Beaulieu Motor Museum, to participation in exhibitions (the silver jubilee exhibition in Hyde Park featured more than a dozen multivision shows) and the making of programmes, predominantly films and videotapes, for distribution to consumer markets. The oil companies, for example, have long made films for free distribution to film clubs, motor clubs and the like.

Sponsored film as a soft sell has been with us for a long time. The medium might change eventually to video but free distribution to film clubs, motor clubs and the like.

The same techniques can be used to help a company to good effect at sales conferences for the staff. As an example, Hambro Life took the main hall at the Wembley Conference Centre so that the American company Caribair could run a conference. Morale was boosted so highly that the six figures spent disappeared in comparison to the boom in revenue.

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Spafax, a car parts distribution organization, has its own television unit which provides a weekly briefing for the sales representatives who come in, one a week, to stock their vans.

The Spafax briefing technique approaches another use of audio-visual aids which seems, after a long gestation period, to be taking off in Britain—films in shops. Films, slide shows and videotapes have for a long time been used in drawing a crowd so that the salesforce could move in. These days films are being used to sell the product.

Three chains of home improvement shops are involved in programmes which explain to the customer how to put up partitions and use certain tools—information which the salesforce is either ill-equipped or too busy to provide. The benefits are obvious: the customer can be given confidence to use a product he or she might otherwise view with some anxiety and the sale is made in a leisurely way.

Signs are that this will spread far beyond the do-it-yourself shops owned by Lesboff, Marley and Dodge.

Peter Lloyd
Editor,
Audio Visual

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Industrial training
Instructive films increasingly popular

An important trend in the audio-visual industry over the past decade has been the growing use of film, filmstrip, slide-tape and video for industrial, professional and commercial training. From a time when there were precious few training films, and nobody was prepared, speculatively, to produce any, we have moved to a time when there is almost an embarrassment of riches of training programmes for sale or hire from a proliferating number of sources in Britain, and a thriving export business as well.

Figures are hard to come by, but Rank Audio Visual, which began the movement with a pioneering sales training film called *Two Way Communication* says the demand for training films alone has doubled over the past five years and is worth about £4m a year.

Video Arts, the production and distribution company set up by John Cleave and Tony Jay in 1972, serves about 12,000 companies with training films, the most successful being *Meetings*, *Bloody Meetings*. Made to train people to run successful and productive meetings, this has grossed more than £328,000 in sales and hire income in Britain alone since its release in mid-1976. In terms of popularity, it is followed closely by *Manhunt*, on the selection of executives, and *The Balance Sheet Barrier*, giving guidance on reading a balance sheet.

A glance at some recent releases indicates the subjects being tackled in film and other audio-visual media.

Millbank Films, an ICI subsidiary, has produced *One in Five*, dealing with the risks and prevention of coronary illness. The title comes from the statistic that one in five people will have a heart attack before retirement.

The Office Supervisor and *Common Sense Motivation* have just appeared in the Guild Sound & Vision Library, and Rank Audio Visual has released *Discord*, for industrial relations training, and *The Pursuit of Efficiency*. In the latter, the actress Penelope Keith plays an upper crust woman working as a temporary secretary in an office. By asking questions as she serves the Lapsang Souchong, she prompts staff at all levels to begin to question the sacred dogma of the established, and often inefficient, practice.

Many specialist organizations have begun to sponsor audio-visual training materials. These include several of the industrial training boards, such as the Construction, Road Transport, and Distribution Training Boards. The Distributive Trades Training Board (DTTB), for example, has just produced four new videocassettes: *Identical*, on how to fill job vacancies with the right people; *The Welcome Mat*, on induction training; *The Inside Job*, showing how two training sessions for retail sales staff; and *Pass It On*, dealing with the acquisition and presentation of knowledge about products.

The DTTB is probably the most advanced of all the industrial training boards in audio-visual aids and has its own 1,500 sq ft studio at Knutsford in Cheshire. This studio produces about 40 programmes a year for the board itself and a further 20 or more for clients, an output which it plans to increase as it moves into its fourth year. Its clients include Radio Rentals and also House of Fraser, which uses video players for training in each of its 120 shops.

The Health and Safety Executive has become a prolific sponsor of safety training films, each tending to deal with a specific kind of industrial hazard, the latest being *A Hell of a Way to Die*, about the causes of transport accidents on the docks. Other important sources of films are Training Film International and the Government's Central Film Library.

The figure of £4m for the annual sales and hire of such films has been well overtaken by what companies are spending on producing their own programmes to meet their individual and increasingly specific training and communication needs.

British Rail, for example, uses a 35-minute film for training railway carriage cleaners, and a video production was made to introduce the new Family Railcard scheme to Travel Centre and booking office staff.

These programmes, and several slide-tape productions, are usually shown by BR on super 8mm film on a five-day tour of Britain. BR also has a video, or television communication network, based on the Sony U-Matic format.

Video programmes are being used by the National Bus Company for training its drivers, inspectors, and booking and inquiry staff in serving customers. For some time both Chrysler (or Talbot as it now is) and BP have been producing regular information programmes for employees.

Leyland Vehicles commissioned a video programme on the Edwards recovery plan before the ballot on the future of BL. The programme was planned and completed in 24 hours, and 48 hours after the ballot. It has been shown to all 25,000 of Leyland Vehicles' employees in the company's 14 plants. Screenings, in company time, went on around the clock and were followed by discussions between workers and local management teams. The programme did not push the Edwards plan, but urged people to think carefully about the issues, and to be sure to use their votes on the day.

The producer of the programme, Dr John Hemmingway, who is manager of the Employee Communications and Training Projects Division at World Wide Pictures, says that the "immediacy with which the audio-visual medium can be used to tackle employee communications, requirements" and "its unique value in establishing a context and framework for informed and reasonable debate on important issues affecting workers and management".

Clive Jones

Lectures and conferences
Lavish shows pay their way

In many people's minds the images conjured up by the words "lecture" and "conference" must still be the traditional ones of gowned students sitting in a price-less piece of our architectural heritage watching someone read a speech they cannot hear. It is reminiscent of interpreters, diplomats and disgruntled heads of state not issuing communiqués; of audiences paying large sums of money to hear "experts" appointed by the organizers deliver lengthy, tendentious and questionable statements.

In too many cases these images still hold true; it could be argued that making group communication more interesting by the use of pictures as well as sound is an antiquated, not to mention logical, problem—after all, slide projectors, film and even television considerably predate the era of the "chip".

Lectures, primarily concerned with educating an audience, have always been heavily reliant on the personality and delivery of the lecturer; traditional aids (apart from the text) include the blackboard, the pointer and the whiteboard.

Change has come to the lecture halls of universities and the learned societies as the subjects they cover have become more specialized. The great benefits of visual aids, particularly multivision, are that they can frequently make points comprehensible which either cannot be explained at all or not so easily by speech alone. They aid retention of points by employing more than one sense in their perception, and they help to engage audience attention.

Many of the schools and colleges in Britain, especially those associated with research and distribution of the applied sciences, are now equipped with lecture theatres designed with great care so that almost any medium the lecturer wishes to use can be smoothly incorporated into the body of the talk.

The position of the learned societies also reflects this trend towards catering for technology (the Society of Chemical Industry's theatre in Belgrave Square is a good example). But in the last resort the use of the audio-visual techniques available is the decision of the lecturer. If, rightly or wrongly, he or she decides to rely on personal magnetism rather than use slides that is the end of the matter.

If lectures are about education—an area traditionally apathetic towards visual aids and new teaching methods—conferences would seem to fall into two categories: information and persuasion. Negotiation must be regarded as something else: there probably were not too many audio-visual aids used in Lancaster House during mid and late 1979.

Conferences concerned with persuasion—whether that be between companies or inter-company meetings—are a part of sales and marketing. They have helped to form an expectation of slick presentations and audio-visual spectacles which is being carried over into other activities.

Broadly speaking, the idea of thoroughly scripted and stage-managed conference presentations—usually accompanied by multivision shows, lasers and/or dancing girls—has come to Europe from the United States, undergoing necessary cultural mutations on the way.

Programmes at this kind of conference—anything from the launch of a new brand of cosmetics to a sales department party with a day's work tagged on—are complex and lavish and can be very expensive indeed, often with quite adequate justification.

But only the best information conferences are following suit. Even with commercially-run conferences and seminars, lecturing still dominates. Speakers often turn up with just a few notes or speak extempore.

The truth is that use of audio-visual techniques demands much planning and forethought by all those concerned—the organizers, programme chairmen and their invited speakers.

There seems to be a body of people who think that if there are conferences, time by showing films, television programmes or slide-tape shows they are not giving the audience value for money. And when they do use visual aids they do so in a halfhearted way.

Take a recent conference at the Café Royal on Video Rights, the copyright and legal problems facing a more or less new industry which is growing up around with a projectionist who has a marked copy of your television programmes and feature films. The only time a television set was used during the day and a half was when one speaker tried to illustrate the problems of picture duplication.

There are inevitable difficulties which make the use of audio-visual aids at conferences far from simple. But, in an age when everyone is being confronted with more and more information, audience expectations are rising fast; they want to be presented with the most readily-understandable and professionally-presented information available.

If you are a potential conference speaker or have someone in your company who is being asked to speak at an organized conference, the benefits of using audio-visual techniques are immense and far-reaching enough to justify the inconvenience of doing a little pre-planning. There are several reasonable options open to the conference speaker which should make his or her presentation more effective and more memorable.

First, there are speaker support slides. You can control them yourself or work with a projectionist who has a marked copy of your script. Pre-planning is essential but a lot can be gained by putting up graphics to explain or reinforce points and by using pictures.

Second, you may use pre-existing programme material. It may well be that you can use a film or videotape that



another company department has had made. But do not fall into the trap of using it all; it will certainly have been produced with a different audience in mind and if you show all the history rather than the unique design you are supposed to be talking about you will probably alienate your audience.

Third, you might have something special made. This is an expensive step, but often justifiable. Conference organizers should certainly try to produce a kind of overture, setting the theme; and if the role of individual speakers is crucial, then there are many occasions when five minutes of film or 10 minutes of slide-tape programme (about £3,000 each) would be money well spent.

In a world of high-speed communications technology and tremendous competition for the attention of audiences, much of the effort at lectures, seminars and conferences still seems amateurish and ineffectual. Audio-visual aids can provide instant professional help, and their growth is assured.

P.L.

Growth is in industry and commerce

no means clear". But he believes there has definitely been a growth in the market for training films in the past six or seven years.

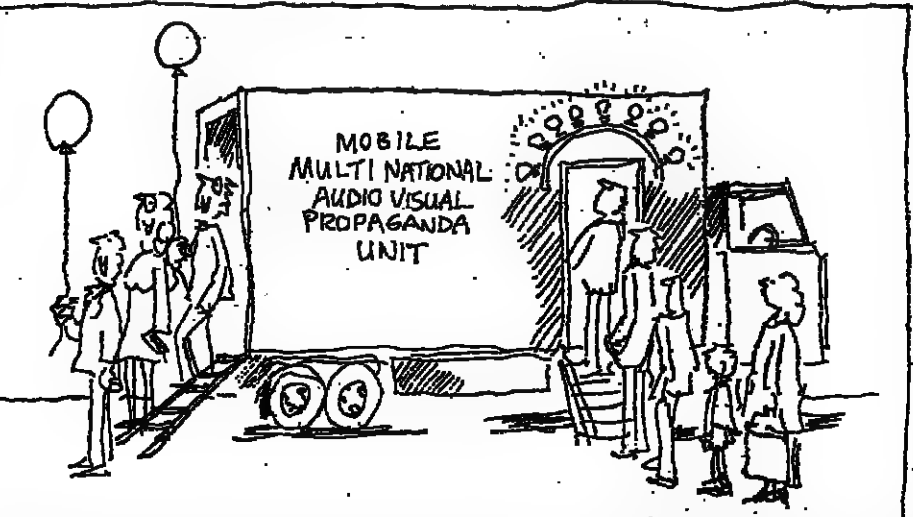
The use of well-known star performers (one Penelope Keith film was on the art of two-way communication dealing with sales training) is an ingredient of such films. Rank Audio Visual has 55 spectacularly produced training films catalogued, costing between about £250 to £400 to buy or up to £50 for a three-day rental. The sales-to-rental ratio is about half and half.

The growth in point-of-sale and industrial relations sales should not obscure what is going on elsewhere, particularly in the development of slide presentations. This medium is traditionally cheaper, and companies new to audio-visual aids often turn to it as a result. There has been a marked growth in this market because of

such developments as the use of large screens and multiple screen presentations.

Purchase Point, which specializes in organizing conferences and exhibitions and finds that about 70 per cent of customers demand an audio-visual content, says that the quality of presentation can be made much better than with film alone by using a combination including slides. The Ford Motor Company is an enthusiastic user, a 50ft-wide screen being specially made for presentations to audiences of about 6,000 such as dealers viewing new car designs.

Exciting presentations can certainly be made. Purchase Point has used live orchestras as backing for slide presentations and, on occasion, lasers. That is one of the lessons of successful audio-visual business: it has to have more than a touch of show business.



continued from previous page

ing to schools although a switch to video equipment is possibly being delayed. But the company's film sales have been affected, with a drop in volume in the past three years of about 25 per cent.

Rank Audio Visual has successfully turned more to foreign markets to make up for this loss, the Middle East countries turning out to be the best market so far. Despite the growth of the tailor-made individual company films in the industrial sector, Rank as a producer of training films for industry has not seen a reduction in sales.

Mr Sharp said: "We have had increases, although whether that is because our films are better than our competitors' or whether the training films market is expanding is by

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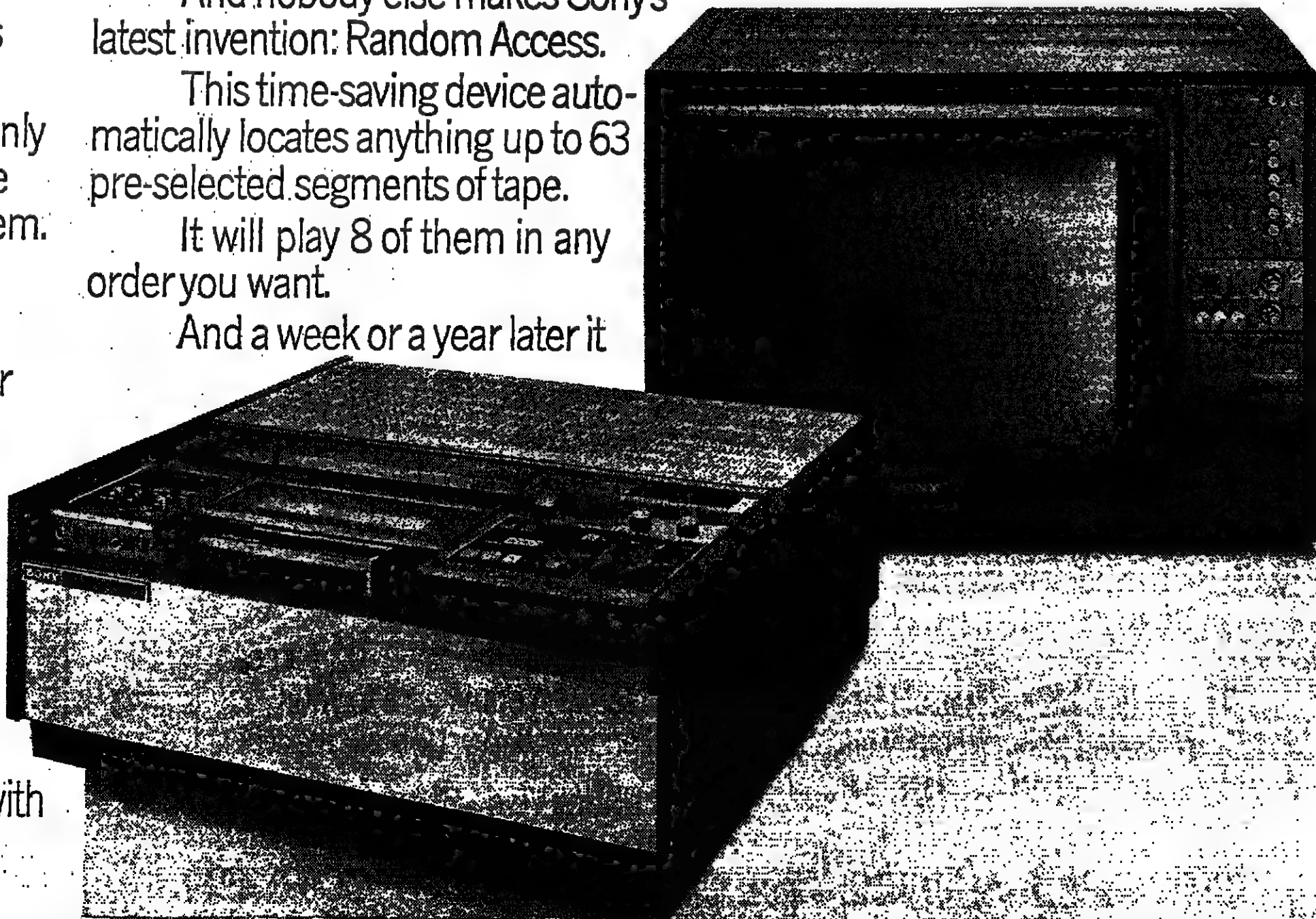
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SONY.



Schools

Recorder and projector flourish in the blackboard jungle

The blackboard is by no means obsolete, and the only real threat to the continued existence of books in the classroom is the one offered by cuts in educational spending. However, the past 10 years have seen an extraordinary upsurge in the use of audio-visual equipment and materials in both secondary and primary schools. Most schools now make extensive use of the video-recorder and in London schools it is not uncommon for more than half the teaching rooms to be equipped with an overhead projector.

Commercial production of audio-visual teaching materials has flourished. The National Audio-Visual Aids Library, run by the National Committee for Audio-Visual Aids in Education, holds one of the largest collections of educational films in Britain—more than 3,000 titles—which it hires out to schools and colleges at lower than those made by commercial libraries. It also holds for sale more than 4,000 film-strips and a large number of 8mm loop films, overhead projection transparencies, slide-tapes and multi-media kits.

The committee also publishes

catalogues of materials produced and its journal, *Visual Education*, reviews many of them as they come on to the market. Its national and regional centres carry out the maintenance and repair of equipment, provide advice and sell a variety of equipment to schools at discount prices. The NCAVE faces an uncertain future with the recent announcement that its budget—from the rate support grant—is to be heavily cut.

According to the NCAVE, the sciences—biology in particular—lead the field, with geography and history following. An increasing quantity of materials produced for environmental and social studies overlaps with these and other subjects where an interdisciplinary approach is being adopted. The NCAVE reports a marked expansion in tape-slide kits in recent years and says that the BBC has had a significant effect on film-strip materials. The BBC's Radiovision kits, consisting of a transcript of the radio broadcast to be recorded, with a film-strip and teachers' notes to accompany it, have become popular at both primary and secondary level.

More generally there is

some decline in the use of film-strips, in favour of 35mm slide sets which give the teacher more scope for editing. There has also been a reduction in the production of 16mm films, because of the widespread use of video-recording from television.

While elaborate materials cannot replace the teacher, they can help to mitigate the teacher shortage—in those subjects where it exists. ILEA's A-level physics project, using slides and overhead projector material with workbooks, alleviates the problems of teaching a large group where a small one would be the ideal. Modern language teaching is an area where sound recording has an obvious value.

As the biggest and wealthiest authority in Britain, ILEA was able to initiate the training of media resources officers in 1966, at a time when there was the money and the scope for experimentation. Clwyd is the only other authority to run a similar scheme on the same scale; the innovation failed to spread, partly because by the time other authorities might have been willing to follow ILEA's example the economic atmosphere had changed.

Training was for the City and Guilds qualification as audio-visual assistant,

until 1971, when ILEA's own Certificate in Media Resources was instituted, with a 12-week full-time course followed by one year of de-release. There are now 320 qualified media resources officers employed by ILEA, and every secondary school has such an officer. Many of them are trained teachers and their role is much more than that of the servicing technician.

As well as developing materials in collaboration with teachers they are expected to train and advise teachers in the use of equipment and materials. The notion of educational technology, with its emphasis on systems learning and its vision of a wholesale technological transformation of education, is one for which there is little enthusiasm among those teachers and educationists who emphasize the necessity of coming to grips with existing educational issues in any use of the media. The growth of O-level and CSE courses in media studies is evidence of this concern. A typical media studies syllabus aims to develop technical competence in different media together with an understanding of the organization and the cultural effects of the mass media, to create a shift

from passive consumption to active critical awareness.

A Schools Council project on the use of the audio-visual media, involving schools in the North-east, also comes from a recognition of the benefits of practical experience and the acquisition of skills. Teacher training now formally acknowledges the importance of media studies. London University Institute of Education this year initiated a post-graduate Certificate in Education in English and Media Studies—the first course of its kind in the country. And from the 28 options available on the general post-graduate Certificate in Education, about a fifth of the trainee teachers chose either audio-visuals, film or media studies.

Technology will undoubtedly enter the classroom to an increasingly greater degree. The Department of Education and Science has published proposals on microelectronics in education, and computers are already finding their way on to the curriculum. The effects of these developments on education will certainly be the subject of debate for a long time to come.

Liz Heron

Higher education

Burgeoning industry at universities

The use of audio-visual teaching aids such as slides and overhead projector transparencies is already established in many areas of higher education where technicians working within university and polytechnic departments can often provide on-the-spot assistance with materials.

These techniques are increasingly supplemented by more advanced centrally produced materials. Most universities and polytechnics now have their own media service unit or audio-visual centre, and the production of audio-visual materials within higher education institutions is a burgeoning industry.

London University Audio-Visual Centre is the leading producer of materials, which include television, 16mm film, sound recordings and tape-slides, as well as booklets and charts to accompany them. The centre opened in 1968, the staffed only by Mr Michael Clarke, the director, and his secretary. It now has a staff of 20, with television engineers and technical staff, programme producers, graphic artists and designers.

Work on a specific project or teaching aid originates from an approach by academic staff. A producer is assigned to the project and works in collaboration with the academic. Staff at the centre are available to give general advice and they also organize occasional training courses and workshops on aspects of the use, care and maintenance of equipment and materials.

In the course of a year they produce several dozen teaching programmes, distribute more than a thousand copies of tapes and films, copy several hundreds of tapes on behalf of the university's schools and institutes, and deal with several thousand requests for information and advice. Distribution is not limited to London University; materials produced are also available for sale or hire to other educational institutions. In Britain and there is a growing number of tapes for the foreign market. The universities of Leeds, Birmingham, Sheffield, Glas-

gow and Newcastle all have a significant output of materials for distribution, and the Open University is now a giant in the world of print and audio-visual educational publishing.

RELPS—the Higher Education Learning Programme Information Service catalogue, published by the British Universities Film Council—lists more than 1,200 items available for hire or sale from higher education institutions. Of the listings in the 1979-80 catalogue, 67 per cent are video-tape or cassette, 12 per cent are films of film strips, 13 per cent are sound tapes and 8 per cent are tape-slide or slide sets.

BUEC also produces a comprehensive four-volume catalogue of audio-visual materials from different sources. This lists about 3,000 items from 250 distributors, all reviewed and recommended for inclusion by several hundred subject specialists.

Audio-visual materials are used across the whole range of disciplines taught, but medicine and the medical sciences account for a high proportion of the output. At the University of London Centre more than half the work produced is for these areas. Videotapes cover surgery, treatment and preventive medicine. Simulated surgery consultants help to prepare doctors for the realities of general practice and are used to prompt discussion around the different approaches that many be adopted.

A series of audio-cassettes for individual study on such topics as basic obstetrics and basic gynaecology have been used by students at St Thomas' Hospital Medical School. The cassettes, which consist of a series of lectures, are accompanied by diagrams and photographs.

Individual study—or self-access, as it is sometimes called—is becoming a widely used tool. Most university and polytechnic libraries operate loan systems for audio-cassettes and video tapes, and an increasing number of subjects. The aim of individual study is to free for discussion what

would otherwise be lecture time. It also means that lectures can be recalled in their entirety without a reliance on note-taking.

As well as reproducing a course of lectures for sustained study, sound tape is frequently used to record visiting lecturers. Sound is perhaps used most extensively on literature and drama courses, giving the writer the added dimension of performance and bringing out its dramatic qualities. A recorded performance by the Comédie Française or the reading of a Greek tragedy can illuminate study.

There is also a considerable body of literary criticism on tape, often in the form of interviews and discussions, making a breadth of approaches more accessible to the student. Sound tapes are used for the analysis of spontaneous dialogue in the training of doctors, social workers and interviewers.

Art history obviously depends on visual material and there has been a move towards the use of film and video as well as slides. Similarly, a growing number of films and video tapes are produced for the study of music.

Leicester Polytechnic is one of the principal producers of slide-tapes. Because of the difficulties of pacing and synchronization in what is a deceptively simple medium there is a trend towards aiming at the slide at individual study.

The British Universities Film Council is the central information body for audio-visual materials in higher education. In addition to its catalogues and other publications, it provides an information service which includes a file of appraisals on materials available in the United Kingdom. Its audio-visual reference centre offers a service of materials and its film library provides an outlet for specialist materials not normally distributed in Britain. Among its activities is the organisation of conferences on the use of materials in particular subjects.

L.H.



PHILIPS

THE AUDIO-VISUAL AID THAT ISN'T A FINANCIAL BURDEN

Museums

Bringing exhibitions to life

The rapid development of audio-visual equipment during the 1970s revolutionised museums and public galleries, many of which had previously presented visitors with an atmosphere akin to that in a mausoleum.

The use of video and multi-image equipment often appears prohibitive financially to all but the biggest museums, such as the Science or Geological Museum, and galleries such as the Independent Broadcasting Authority's. However, audio-visual enhancement of certain exhibits can be achieved at a relatively low cost, and itself with the increased number of visitors.

An important catalyst in creating this change in attitude has been BMT's London Experience. This presents the history of London in 57 minutes using multi-image techniques, with various side attractions including the Kings and Queens costume exhibition.

London Experience has shown that an audio-visual show can be a box-office success: 1,500,000 people have paid to see it in 32 months. Two thirds of these were tourists and a big proportion of the rest were schoolchildren.

Its predecessor, New York Experience, attracted two million visitors in its seven-year existence, and similar ventures are planned for Singapore and Amsterdam.

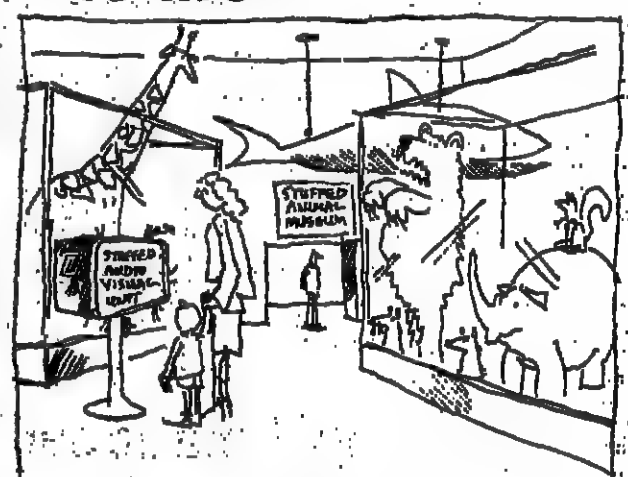
The example of London Experience bodes well for the future of multi-image shows, but Britain is well behind the United States in both the acquisition of sponsorship and in making it pay handsome dividends.

Slide-based and film-based audio-visual shows are more suitable for use in museums or for the portrayal of history than television. As showing media they have better and more versatile picture qualities than the small screen.

The fading contrast capability of even a simple top projector multi-image programme is perfectly suitable while costing much less than film or video, for situations where information must be presented in logical steps, but with inherent appeal.

Museums perform an essentially educational role and are not expected to be run like cinemas, so there are of different principles involved for institutions such as the Geological Museum and the London Experience Theatre.

The Geological Museum's chief designer, Mr Gills Velarde, believes that like many previous innovations multi-media employed a fashionable period, but once people become too



acclimatised it only serves a purpose if it fulfils an exact requirement. Most people would have assumed that his current criterion was the one to be applied from the beginning.

The Geological Museum's usage has declined since it installed Britain Before Man in October, 1978. Its next major exhibit will feature some changing slides mixed with a tracking panorama, but no audio.

Video is unsuitable for presenting pictures as the museum's need for the best possible picture quality means the age-old rule that there is nothing as good as a transparency in its own right. Video is almost useless there, although VDUs will be used when banks of words need to be presented.

As if emphasizing his belief that audio visual aids have passed a fashionable peak, Mr Velarde reported that the museum has scrapped plans to buy its own pushing unit for slide-tape programmes.

The Science Museum is different, video is used extensively. Mr Arthur Rowley, an assistant museum keeper and head of audio-visual facilities, has 20 channels of video operational but could well have many more since the museum owns 45 U-matic format machines.

Almost all the material screened on these comes to the museum as 16mm film footage, so the four-stage process of transferring, editing, producing a multiple copy and working tapes means that the visitor sees a fourth generation picture of distinctly impaired quality.

Film was used before video, and dropped because of its high running costs. Video does cost four times as much to install but each cassette gives 500 passes, and even then it is replaced only to prevent unnecessary wear on the video heads.

In all, the Science Museum has 45 video machines as well as four or five single screen slide shows, one six-screen multi-image show and a three-screen Fordium exhibition. The Chief of the Chip and The Great Optical Illusion, which details the 50-year history of television—will use the staple number of video channels and single screen slide shows. There is not a growth in the use of audio-visual aids detectable there, but rather a consolidation.

The Area Museums Service is one Quango that has not escaped Government cuts, but at least it still exists. Funds that it can provide in the form of grants can act as a carrot to persuade small museums to use audio-visual aids and encourage their designers. Cash is the limiting factor, and it is likely to remain so for the foreseeable future.

There are instances where audio-visual aids are vital, however. The Ironbridge Gorge Museum, for example, tells an audio-visual story of its history before visitors set off around the open-air exhibits. A listening post would be a poor substitute in this case.

Acquiring sponsorship would appear to provide the logical means of funding, but sadly only the museums with inherent publicity value will benefit.

Disney World and Disney World are the prime examples of audio-visual display at its best. If not its best, neither of them could ever be equalled in size and scope by events or centres in Britain, but their remarkable pulling power more than justifies the installation of so much audio-visual material. Disney World opened in 1971 and by 1977 more than 70 million people had visited it. In 1977 alone income exceeded \$300m.

George Jarro, deputy editor, Audio Visual.

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AN HONEST AND TOUGH RESPONSE

It would be wrong to see President Carter merely as a weak president suddenly made strong by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. It is true that he admits to having undergone a change of perception but the change is not total. The new policies announced on Wednesday night modify but do not entirely displace those that went before. A thread of consistent and sincere endeavour remains.

Mr Carter's problem has not been weakness as such but bad management. Like previous presidents he has had to face the Soviet Union with a combination of firmness and willingness to negotiate. He has sometimes got the mixture wrong. He entered office with perhaps exaggerated hopes of negotiation and of drawing the Soviet Union into cooperation in the third world, but in a sense he presented it with a greater challenge than did previous Administrations when he tried to shift the emphasis from military confrontation, where the Soviet Union is strong, to ideological, moral and economic competition, where it is weak. This probably troubled the relationship as much as his vacillations.

He saw correctly that one of his first aims must be to regain moral credibility for the United States, which was coming to be identified in many parts of the world with colonialism and other forms of oppression. In the developing world this was a liability which could endanger American security as much as military weakness. He was therefore willing to take some risks in leaving the odium of military interventions to the Russians. In Africa the risk could be taken in the belief that Soviet influence would eventually be thrown off by nationalism and the need for

western economic aid. It has brought rewards in the form of steadily improving relations between the United States and third world countries. It is very unlikely that the historic vote on Afghanistan in the United Nations General Assembly would have been as overwhelmingly hostile to the Soviet Union if there had not been a diminution of hostility towards the United States in recent years.

The invasion of Afghanistan has reinforced this trend but it has also presented a new and more urgent challenge. It is one thing to risk letting the slow forces of history take care of Soviet intervention in Africa; it is something else to take the same risk when the Soviet Union occupies a hitherto non-aligned country on its own borders and moves its forces several hundred miles nearer the Gulf. At this point clear lines must be drawn. Mr Carter has now begun to draw them. "An attempt by any outside force to gain control of the Persian Gulf region," he says, "will be regarded as an assault on the vital interests of the United States. It will be repelled by use of any means necessary, including military force." As for Pakistan, "the United States will take action—consistent with our own laws—to assist Pakistan in resisting any outside aggression." The more awkward problem of whether to help the present Pakistani regime put down a possible Soviet-inspired insurrection in Baluchistan is avoided, which leaves, an unfortunate though probably unavoidable grey area.

The rest of Mr Carter's address contains a series of measures and proposals which similarly reflect his newly sharpened awareness that the Soviet Union must be confronted on military as well as moral terms. He wants

defence spending increased and preparations made for a return to conscription, and he is pressing ahead with the creation of forces that can be deployed rapidly overseas. He speaks of working with other nations in the Gulf area to "shape a co-operative security framework that respects differing values and political beliefs yet enhances the independence, security and prosperity of all". Rightly he links his energy programme with the security of the nation. At the same time he does not close all doors to negotiation with the Soviet Union on arms control.

The mixture as a whole is about right. The military balance has been allowed to tilt too much in favour of the Soviet Union. As Mr Carter pointed out, Soviet spending on defence has increased steadily in real terms while that of the United States declined from 1968 to 1976. Whether or not it was this that tempted the Soviet Union into Afghanistan it is now unavoidable that the defences of the west will have to be stiffened at the same time as its political commitments are more clearly defined.

Meanwhile, a qualitative change in Soviet behaviour has been matched by an appropriate change in Washington. The immediate prospects are bound to look gloomy. The arms race will continue unchecked. Defence spending will rise. The delicate threads of détente are breaking. The situation in Moscow is unpredictable. Out of this bruising experience, however, it is still possible for both sides to emerge more realistic about themselves and their adversary. Mr Carter has made a start. He needs—and, as Lord Carrington made clear, he has in Britain—the full support of his allies.

Victims of the steel dispute

From the President of the Association of British Chambers of Commerce

Sir, Chambers of Commerce within this association represent some two-thirds of the private sector of industry and commerce. None of that sector is a party to the steel dispute, yet it will suffer long-term damage and permanent loss of jobs as a consequence of the action now being taken.

The declared intention of the steel unions is to cripple not only the British Steel Corporation but also its suppliers and customers. The use of blacking and the strike call to the employees in private steel, who are not in dispute, have this objective. But neither wages nor jobs can be protected by causing the collapse of the customers.

The workers in those overseas countries who are refusing to send steel here during the strike must be laughing. They are not refusing to supply cars, ships, engineering products or domestic appliances to us or to our customers abroad. Their own steel industries and their workers will flourish at the expense of the very steel industry workers here who have sought their support.

It is not my role to apportion blame for the present dispute but surely it is possible, before further damage is done, to find a fair solution.

Taxpayers in other industries cannot be expected to provide even more cash for BSC when the opportunities for higher earnings out of greater productivity are not grasped in the steel industry itself. But the taxpayer and the EEC can be expected to provide aid to establish new industries and jobs for those who become redundant as a result of the essential streamlining of the steel industry. It is here and not in the wage bargaining that government has a responsibility.

We urge BSC and the unions to reopen their negotiations and, if agreement cannot be reached, for the terms of the BSC offer to be clearly and simply set out and published for a ballot amongst all the employees who are on strike.

This should be done before many thousands of men and women, who have no dispute with their employers and only want to get on with their jobs, are put out of work.

Yours faithfully,
TOM BOARDMAN,
6-14 Dean Farrar Street, SW1.
January 24.

Companion in arms

From Major-General K. S. Rudnicki

Sir, The project of placing a memorial plaque in the Coldstream Guards Memorial Cloister in the Guards Chapel to honour General Sir Oliver Leese has been most warmly received by the veterans of the 2nd Polish Corps and has awakened memories of the battles in the Italian Campaign in the ranks of the British 8th Army.

Under the command of General Sir Oliver Leese the 2nd Polish Corps saw their most glorious days in the battles of Monte Cassino, Ancona, the Apennines and the Gothic Line. We all remember his outstanding abilities as a commander, his confidence and friendship he showed to General Anders and his Polish soldiers, and most of all the deep understanding of the political problems of the Polish Army fighting for a free Poland on foreign soil, far from their fatherland.

This fellowship at arms goes even closer when General Sir Oliver Leese put the magnificent British regiment of the 7th Hussars under General Anders's command. They fought in our unit from June to August 1944 in many battles, and in appreciation of their valor and with General Leese's approval they were given the Warsaw coat of arms emblem, the Mermaid (Syrena) of the 2nd Polish Corps, to wear. The Hussars wear the Polish Syrena to this day on their sleeves.

Yours faithfully,
K. S. RUDNICKI,
53 Redcliffe Gardens, SW10.
January 22.

An issue of 'Picture Post'

From Dr D. E. Martin

Sir, May I correct an error in Philip Norman's article on B. L. Coombes (December 29) and repeated in Sir Tom Hopkinson's letter (January 8)? Coombes was not, as Sir Tom says, a "unionist" when his article appeared in *Picture Post* on January 4, 1941, and it is not true to say, as Mr Norman does, that he "went on to write a book, *These Poor Hands*". Coombes's book was published in 1939, when it was the *Left Book Club* book for June.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID E. MARTIN,
Department of Economic and Social History,
University of Sheffield,
January 8.

Turn of the crew

From the Reverend M. J. Peel

Sir, While in no way doubting the truth of Mr Rainbird's story of his reply to the porter at Marks Tey, I must point out that it is nearly word for word the same as an account of an identical exchange which once took place on the up platform at Reading between a porter and the late Professor C. M. Joad, and to which your attention was drawn subsequently by Alec Clifton-Taylor in a letter entitled "I'm not here". In the latter words, it was "surely the classic story on this theme, and the most amusing".

Is it possible, I wonder, that Mr Rainbird's reply was prompted by a subconscious recollection of having read about the philosopher's memorable riposte in your columns?

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL J. PEEL,
The Rectory,
Iwer Heath,
Iwer,
Buckinghamshire,
January 16.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Boycotting the Moscow Olympics

From Lord Monckton of Brechley

Sir, The British Olympic Committee appear to be out of touch with the feelings of the majority in this country and indeed with the ideals of the Games when they were restarted.

To enter sports as individuals and to strive for excellence is good, but the International Committee has allowed the Games to become a struggle between nations with flag waving and national anthems. Some countries have been banned whilst others do not enter for political reasons.

The Games are no longer contests between the best because some of the best are professionals, and teams entered by some countries as amateurs are virtually professional.

The time has now come for sportsmen to consider abolishing the Olympic Games, but instead to have world championships in various parts of the world for different sports, which would include the best, whether amateur or professional.

Whether Russia has insured the Games in London or not, true sportsmen will surely refuse to go to Moscow after the invasion of a neutral country and the brutal treatment of her own nationals.

Yours faithfully,
MONCKTON OF BRECHLEY,
House of Lords.

From Mrs J. Bentley and others

Sir, In view of the fact that Dr Andrei Sakharov has been sent into exile, we suggest that the United Kingdom should not merely boycott the Olympic Games, but also sever all sporting links with the USSR.

These links should not be reformed until the Soviet Union is ready to accord full human rights to all its citizens, in the spirit of the Helsinki Agreement.

Yours faithfully,
J. BENTLEY,
E. W. ROWELL,
20 Carlton House Terrace, SW1,
January 23.

From Mrs H. S. Leibetseder

Sir, In 1936 I was a prisoner in Berlin awaiting trial for anti-Nazi activities which cost me three years in a prisoner jail and concentration camp. I remember vividly the impact of the news the Berlin Olympiad had on me and my cell-mates. We cried in our helplessness

Reviving Civil Defence

From Lord Noel-Baker

Sir, Many voices are being raised in the United States, Britain and elsewhere to argue that nuclear wars could be fought without total disaster; some even suggest that a nuclear war could be "won".

Perhaps Mr David Sneath (January 21) supports this thesis when he suggests that a Civil Defence programme would be a useful "insurance" against the devastation of a nuclear war.

Twenty-five years ago this view was shared by many governments, most notably by that of the United States.

The United States Civil Defence Administrator was an exceptionally able man, Mr Val Peterson. Mr Peterson organized many Civil Defence exercises, national, regional and local. In one exercise President Eisenhower and his staff took part by flying in a helicopter to an emergency headquarters outside Washington.

Mr Peterson made Americans as Civil-Defence conscious as in 1954 the Governor of California never travelled anywhere without carrying his "iron ration" with him in his car; a Christian priest advised his flock that it would be no sin for a man to shoot and kill his neighbour, if his neighbour tried to force an entry into his family.

Mr Peterson's Las Vegas organization a force of 5,000 men to repel Californians who might invade their

Links with Chile

From the Chilean Chargé d'Affaires

Sir, It is with interest that I have read some of the correspondence relating to the reestablishment of Ambassadors between Chile and the United Kingdom. The letters deal with British points of view on the substance of our relations which correspond to an internal debate and in which I have no intervention.

But I do wish to express my surprise at the position taken by your newspaper which, in its editorial (*The Times*, January 18), enters into the matter of Anglo-Chilean relations not on a basis of mutual respect and equality, but as a privileged relation in which one country or government grants or does not grant its approval to another.

Risks of ECT

From Dr W. M. Keynes

Sir, You appeared tonight on a BBC Television "Question Time" in which electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) was criticized because an elderly patient had died after ECT against her wish.

The question of the giving of ECT is emotive, but it seems quite clear that it can be most helpful in some patients, particularly those with depression. What was not stated was that, in this instance, the death of the patient was in no way due to ECT, but was due to what is called an "anaesthetic death". The patient died in the anaesthetic recovery period from the inhalation of vomit, an accident that has not yet been explained.

How did she avoid the normal starvation period before anaesthesia was given? The question of the rights or wrongs of giving ECT against the wishes of a patient (who may not be in the position to question the medical reasons for giving the treatment)—in this case her daughter had given permission—cannot be argued from this unfortunate result.

Yours faithfully,
MILO KEYNES,
3 Brunswick Walk,
Cambridge,
January 22.

knowing full well that a welcome propaganda boost this was for Hitler, showing up the weakness of the West's reaction to, as we felt, impending war.

Yours truly,
H. LEIBETSEDER,
109 Greenhill, NW3,
January 20.

From Mr R. E. Bamford

Sir, Cannot Lord Killanin distinguish between politics and morals? Yours faithfully,
R. E. BAMFORD,
Frogmore,
Winterborne Whitechurch,
Blandford, Dorset,
January 2.

From Lord Sligo

Sir, President Carter suggests Greece as a permanent home for the Games. His sense of Olympic history does him credit, but surely Greece, of all European countries, stands at the very crossroads of potential danger; unless the world has greatly changed by 1984(!)

If she is agreeable, Switzerland would be a better choice. Politically uninvolved with anyone, already the home of the timeless and international Red Cross; within her small country a lovely summer climate in the West, and the mountains in the East, for the winter events.

Her citizens have the money and the imagination to put a splendid centre, and the expertise to deal with the tourists.

Switzerland is well placed geographically for most other countries, and I cannot imagine her being boycotted for political reasons.

Achilles, who now find their landable ambitions, would welcome something fixed in an unceremonious world.

Some of the original spirit of the Olympic Games might even return. Yours, etc,
SLIGO,
House of Lords,
January 22.

From Mr Tyrrell Burgess

Sir, Clearly the Olympic Games should be moved to Gorky.

Yours sincerely,
TYRRELL BURGESS,
34 Sandlands,
Croydon,
Surrey,
January 23.

city in seeking to escape a nuclear attack.

But Mr Peterson's experience can best be told in his own words.

In 1935, he said: "One study showed that we could have 22 million casualties, of which, I think, seven million would be dead."

In 1955: "Plans would be made for evacuating, feeding and sheltering 100 million people living in 92 critical target areas."

In 1956: "The casualties of last year's exercise were 23 (13 million). This year one third of the population (56 million) would be casualties."

In 1957: "If the whole 170 million Americans had Air Raid Shelters, at least 50 per cent of them would die in a surprise enemy attack. In the last analysis, there is no such thing as a nation being prepared for a thermonuclear war."

Surely all British people and the British Government should accept the joint warning of Lord Mountbatten (speech in Strasbourg, May 9, 1979) and Lord (Sir) Zuckerman (*The Times*, January 21, 1980) that any use of nuclear weapons will escalate into general war; that there is no defence against such weapons and that nuclear war will destroy civilization, and perhaps exterminate mankind.

To hope for salvation from Civil Defence is a dangerous self-deluding pipe dream.

Yours etc,
RULIP NOEL-BAKER,
House of Lords,
January 24.

The level of the diplomatic representation, the manner in which

civilized nations conduct their mutual relations, the norms of international law, are not subject to capricious interpretations. They are matters on which no country makes presents or does favours to another, but deal solely with a fair retribution.

For that, I sincerely regret that *The Times* should have pretended to maintain its readers with extraordinary illusion that an international aristocracy may still exist which is exempt from the norms applicable to the rest of the countries and peoples of the world.

Yours faithfully,
JORGE BERGUNO,
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.,
Chilean Embassy,
12 Devonshire Street, W1.

Cutting aid to disabled

From Mr Jack Hanson

Sir, As cuts in public expenditure on the personal social services begin to bite, there will be many instances of adaptations for disabled people being delayed or refused.

This may not lead to more admissions to residential care because the same cuts prevent the provision of additional places. The result is more likely to be the denial of a disabled person's right to live as independent a life as possible, coupled with further stress and tension for the family.

The risk of breakdown, leading to expensive health care not only for the disabled individual but also for other members of the family, is heightened. Is there any great social policy to aim at strengthening families rather than tearing them apart?

Yours faithfully,
JACK HANSON,
President,
Association of Directors of Social Services,
County Hall,
Dorchester,
Dorset,
January 21.

Prelate's tribute

to a Prelate

From the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster

Sir, Archbishop Coggan retires today. May I ask you to allow me to express publicly my own gratitude to him for many kindnesses shown to me both in the north and more recently in London?

I trust that it will not be thought inappropriate to pay a more personal tribute than might be customary in your columns to a Churchman whose sincerity and integrity I very much respect. Prelates in high office, on the whole, find the institutional aspect of their office burdensome, though recognizing, of course, its importance.

The world of controversy into which they are inevitably drawn can wear down the spirit. That, too, is part of their life. Archbishop Coggan's vision of life, however, went beyond the constriction of the institution and above the controversy which attracts immediate attention.

He treasures the things of the Spirit which really matter. These are not "news" in the conventional sense, but Good News for those who are hungry for a word from God. It is this that so many of us have appreciated in him.

In this tribute I would like to associate a great Christian lady, his wife Jean. May they be able to continue their lives of dedicated service, strengthened by the knowledge of the respect in which they are both held.

Yours faithfully,
BASIL HUMPHREY,
Archbishop's House,
Westminster, SW1,
January 21.

Clerics' broken marriages

From the Bishop of Chester

Sir, Your Religious Affairs Correspondent (January 21) deplores the lack of information concerning the rate of breakdown in the marriages of the Clergy. This startling deficiency in the common stock of human knowledge is so important that I must do my best to provide answers from at least one area of the country.

In the first place the rate is nil so far as the Roman Catholic Church is concerned. I have no knowledge of marital affairs within the Free Churches but I do not suspect that the declarative adjective in that title has any significance in this context. Between 1973 and 1979 in the Diocese of Chester, out of 330 full time clergy, there was one couple whose marriage broke down. During 1979 a further two marriages resulted in the voluntary resignations of the Priests concerned. During that year three more instances became known to me where great difficulties were obvious but where no conclusive or final action has yet resulted.

I do not think there is any great mystery to be explained or great numbers of clergy to be counselled. For the sake of propriety I will not repeat the remarkable advice of my first Regimental Sergeant Major (verbally), "I will paraphrase as follows: 'The two great causes of trouble in the world are the human tongue and the male procreative organ.'"

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
VICTOR CESTR,
Chester,
January 21.

The Ulster conundrum

From Major J. D. A. FitzGerald

Sir, Should Northern Ireland leave the United Kingdom, Great Britain would not need a new flag (P. W. Duncanson, January 18). The red saltire in the Union flag commonly but incorrectly described as the cross of St Patrick—that Saint not having been crucified never earned a cross in the heraldic scheme. This was probably carried by the first of that tribe when he, as one of the first Norman "immigrants", preceded Strongbow to Ireland.

A glance at any Great British telephone directory will show that sufficient of us have been repatriated, some voluntarily, some not, but certainly without Government financial aid, part of the way back to our country of origin, and that there are enough of us still resident in this country to justify retaining our saltire in our host country's flag.

Yours, etc,
JOHN FITZGERALD,
The Coachhouse,
Heworth Village,
York.

Highest sea cliff

From Dr Mary E. Easthope

Sir, Which is the highest vertical sea cliff in Britain? Dan van der Var in his travel article in *The Times* (January 19) says it is St John's Head, Orkney. This is 1,240 ft.

I have looked down from the Kame, on Foula, Shetland (1,220 ft) and up Conaichair, on St Kilda (over 1,300 ft), and have been close to the west wall of Boreary, St Kilda (1,245 ft). A stone dropped from the top of any of these three will fall in the sea.

Yours sincerely,
MARY EASTHOPE,
4 Salters Close,
Hayling Island,
Hampshire.

Engineers to the fore

From Dr D. M. Kitson

Sir, There could be few better illustrations of the truth of your recent excellent leading article on the Finimster Report (January 10) on the engineering profession than your own decision to consign the ensuing correspondence to the business pages while, at the same time, leaving your main correspondence page free for people to complain about the difficulties of gaining access to 12th century Pipe Rolls at the Public Record Office.

Yours faithfully,
D. M. KITSON,
34 Woodstock Road North,
St Albans,
Hertfordshire.

THE CONDITIONS FOR EXTRADITION

Whatever the conditions of the former Shah of Iran's life in Panama—whether he is under arrest, as the Iranians claim, or "under the care of the security authorities", as the Panamanian government says—it appears that Panama is treating seriously the possibility of handing him back to the Ayatollah. Iran has asked for the former Shah's extradition, and a Panamanian spokesman has set out certain procedural requirements which had to be followed before the request could be considered. It is too soon to suggest that the Panamanian government is showing signs of succumbing to the pressures being put on it to expel the former Shah, but it should be made clear that for a number of reasons it would be unacceptable under international law for the Panamanian authorities to comply with Iranian wishes.

First, there is as yet no proper formal request. All there has been is a demand that the former Shah be handed back, couched in the most general terms, and not supported by the kind of evidence which most countries would require before even considering such a request. The evidence need not be overwhelming, but it should at least raise a prima facie case against the individual whose extradition is being sought. Second, there is no extradition agreement

between Iran and Panama. That is not necessarily fatal. A formal agreement facilitates the transfer of alleged criminals between two states, but its absence does not make it impossible, provided the criteria laid down by the government to whom the request is made are met.

Much more important is the third test that the government of Iran fails to meet. It is a principle of international law that an alleged offender should not be sent back to a country which does not itself have an effective system of justice. There can be no doubt that Iran is at present in a state of legal anarchy. None of the safeguards for an accused which would be regarded as essential in civilized countries apply in Iran. The law is, in effect, what the Ayatollah says it is. In no sense could any accused, let alone the former Shah, have anything remotely resembling a fair trial.

Fourth, a country which has so blatantly breached the fundamental principles of international behaviour should not be entitled to any of the benefits conferred by international law. By its continued support for the detention of the hostages, Iran has in effect placed itself in a state of international illegality. It is an act of considerable impudence on the part of an outlaw to try to use to his advantage the very set of rules which

he has flouted. The government of Panama has given a courteous hearing to the demands of the Iranians, which is more than deserved.

Even if the government of Iran were to move back towards a position of legality and justice and there are few signs of that happening—the Shah would have a good case for being granted political asylum. It is true that international law withdraws protection from those guilty of war crimes or crimes against humanity. Whatever excesses were permitted, or even ordered, by the former Shah, and however unpleasant and oppressive his regime, it was not of the same horrific order as, say, that of Amin or Bokassa. There is a difference between barbarism and genocide stemming from megalomania, and oppression resulting from hugely misguided but probably sincere attempts to modernize a society, which was what the former Shah was attempting to do. Perhaps the best comparison is between the Shah and the Ayatollah Khomeini, both of whom for reasons of status have used criminal means to pursue their ideal, one of modernization, the other of a deviant version of Islam. The Shah is not an international criminal in the Nuremberg sense. He would be eligible for political asylum and should therefore be given it if he asks.

This fellowship at arms goes even closer when General Sir Oliver Leese put the magnificent British regiment of the 7th Hussars under General Anders's command. They fought in our unit from June to August 1944 in many battles, and in appreciation of their valor and with General Leese's approval they were given the Warsaw coat of arms emblem, the Mermaid (Syrena) of the 2nd Polish Corps, to wear. The Hussars wear the Polish Syrena to this day on their sleeves.

Yours faithfully,
K. S. RUDNICKI,
53 Redcliffe Gardens, SW10.
January 22.

FRANCHISES MUST NOT BE FREEHOLD

Only one change of consequence was announced by the Independent Broadcasting Authority yesterday in setting out the conditions for the next round of commercial television franchises. For the first time in Britain there will be breakfast television. The need to extend the hours of television coverage is not immediately evident. But, as an article by Frank Vogle on page 19 today explains, breakfast television has for years been a success in the United States—though American television does not in general set a pattern from which Britain has much to learn. A sharp distinction between the provision of more television in this sense and an increase in the number of channels competing for viewers at any one time. It is intensified competition of the second kind which is liable, unless there are stringent safeguards, to reduce the general level of quality in the frantic search for audiences. There is no reason why cornflakes televi-

sion should have that effect. The danger is rather that the BBC will feel that it cannot afford to keep out of this particular race and will therefore extend its programme hours without having the necessary resources. If that happens, the ultimate effect on British television as a whole might be damaging, but breakfast television itself deserves a modest welcome.

It will break fresh ground in another sense in that it will be the first commercial television service, apart from Independent Television as a whole. Apart from that, the IBA has kept to the existing television boundaries, merely taking steps to provide for more local coverage in the Midlands and the South of England. This will seem timid, but is not unreasonable. To have broken up the existing regions would have involved extra engineering costs, and to relatively little purpose. Television companies are intended to serve distinct regions. Sometimes the

boundaries have to be drawn somewhat arbitrarily, but for the IBA to be repeatedly changing its mind as to what is a region would be the wrong way for it to exercise its imagination and its powers of supervision. There was, however, a case for splitting Wales and the West, and giving Wales a national service of its own.

The right course is to ensure that no contractor can feel sure of keeping its franchise. Unless the IBA is confident that every single contractor is performing as well as can reasonably be expected, it should make at least one change every time it awards fresh franchises. That would be unfair if the achievement were uniformly excellent, and it would be unwise to make so many changes that no company felt able to plan for the future. But it would not be unjust at this time for the IBA to switch one or just possibly two franchises. That will be a test of its imagination and courage.

Going up in the world

FOREIGN REPORT

Unseen power-struggle to replace old men of the Kremlin

Mr Vladimir Kirilov, the Soviet Deputy Prime Minister, who resigned on Tuesday, was the first public Soviet political casualty of Afghanistan. But the Soviet intervention and the worldwide condemnation it drew have intensified the unseen power struggle among the elderly men who rule the Soviet Union, and have complicated the question of who will succeed Mr Brezhnev as leader of the world's most formidable military power.

So many scenarios have been constructed by Western Kremlinologists for the succession to the ailing 73-year-old leader that sober minds in Moscow are now inclined to disregard them all and conclude that whoever says he knows the pattern of the future Soviet leadership is a liar.

No one in Moscow, however "reliable" his sources, can predict the shifting alliances and political fortunes of the 15 men who comprise the Soviet Politburo and from whose number the next Soviet leader is likely to come.

Moscow is now abuzz with rumours, speculation and deliberately down-muffled information. All that can be safely said is that the present generation of leaders, now on average 10 years above the legal retirement age for Soviet men, are facing death, division and disabatement among themselves; are locked in a collective struggle to maintain the status quo, deeply suspicious of the younger, better educated generation of party activists; and are secretly and widely despised by most Russians as out of touch and intellectually and physically exhausted.

In spite of the widespread reports of illness and occasional rumours of death, there seems little doubt that Mr Brezhnev, general secretary of the party for the past 15 years, is still in charge.

The recent suggestion that he was overruled in the decision to go into Afghanistan, and even that he was presented with an ultimatum by his more hardline colleagues, is dismissed by almost everyone in Moscow.

First, Politburo deliberations, though probably less inhibited than the average Soviet political discussion, are not likely to follow the pattern of Cabinet meetings in the West. Mr Brezhnev would not have remained in power for so long if he was not able to sense the feeling of the meeting, sum up the views of his colleagues and himself, and propose a way forward.

Second, the question of Afghanistan does not nearly divide the Politburo into hawks and doves. All are hawks when they see Soviet interests threatened; it is believed that Mr Gromyko, the Foreign Minister and the man with the greatest understanding of Western reaction and mentality, was one of the leading advocates of intervention.

Third, there is no clear challenger to Mr Brezhnev, who has been able to make the mistake of his predecessor and appoint any single heir-apparent.

But Mr Brezhnev, whatever his undisclosed ailments, is not well. Ironically, although he



Mikhail Suslov.



Konstantin Chernenko.



Yuri Andropov.



Dmitry Ustinov.

has been glorified as a cult figure almost surpassing that of Stalin in his heyday—a decision widely attributed to Mikhail Suslov, the veteran ideologist, whose Stalinist views are thought to favour a father-figure for the country—Mr Brezhnev is a creature of consensus who has genuinely attempted, usually with success, to keep the various factions in the Politburo in balance.

After his death (honourable retirement appears an increasingly unlikely option) there would be no strong reaction against his policies as they epitomise the policies of all, and all have an interest in preserving their own positions.

Most analysts suggest an interim leader who is not powerful enough to threaten his peers but is able to work with them. Such a choice might point to Andrei Kirilenko, aged 73, who has deputised for Mr Brezhnev, has a solid party base, experience in foreign affairs and has recently—and usefully for him—taken a rather hard line in speeches on détente.

It might also point to Konstantin Chernenko, aged 68, a close associate of Mr Brezhnev, who is thought to be the party leader's own choice as a successor. But his recent elevation to Politburo membership would put him at a disadvantage with his colleagues once Mr Brezhnev is gone, and he has been visibly identified with a rocky view of détente, which would not seem to help his chances in the post-Afghanistan atmosphere.

Two well-known senior men can probably be ruled out: Mr

Kosygin and Mr Gromyko. Mr Kosygin suffered a serious illness in October, said to be either a heart attack or a stroke, and is never likely to resume his full duties as Prime Minister again.

Mr Gromyko, four Foreign Minister for almost 23 years, is indispensable in his present job, and in any case is a fairly recent arrival in the Politburo with little experience in party affairs.

Arvid Palshe, a party member since 1915 and now nearly 81, is clearly far too old. Mr Suslov, the apostle of ideological orthodoxy, has long been the kingmaker but seems at 77 too old now to be king, though his voice will still be influential in any choice.

There are signs that the worldwide reaction to the Afghanistan intervention, which he almost certainly advocated strongly, has diminished his standing somewhat. He did not appear at the airport farewell for M. Georges Marchais, the French Communist leader, although the press said he was there, and in a typically obscure Mafie-like indication of disapproval, Pravda recently printed a short piece about the publication of works by a senior Communist whose execution under Stalin was largely the result of Mr Suslov's condemnation.

Yuri Andropov, the head of the KGB, is thought to be less substantial than his awesome position would suggest, though his colleagues would probably be worried about putting anyone in charge with links such as he now has.

Michael Binyon

Dmitry Ustinov, the Defence Minister, is a competent technocrat whose future may depend on how well his troops perform in Afghanistan.

And Viktor Grishin, a former trade union leader and now head of the Moscow party organization, is a colourless man with few positive assets—though that in itself might recommend him at a time of crisis and deadlock.

Of the others, Dinnukhamed Kunayev, head of the Kazakhstan party, is unlikely to succeed at a time when Russian ethnic nationalism is an increasingly strong force. Vladimir Shcherbitsky from the Ukraine, though an old friend of Mr Brezhnev, has for from the centre of power. Grigory Romanov, head of the Leningrad party, is at 56 the youngest member and patently ambitious, but is handicapped by his Leningrad origins, his name (every Russian cannot fail to see the irony), and by rumours that he was reprimanded by his colleagues for an extravagant wedding party he held for his daughter using a Tassir dinner service.

And the most recent newcomer, Nikolai Tikhonov, aged 74, was elevated to Politburo membership only in November and seems almost certain to succeed Mr Kosygin shortly as Prime Minister.

Afghanistan has presented the old men with a crisis whose dimensions they did not foresee. The quarrel with America and the threat of an Olympic boycott are not likely to be blamed on any single individual, however, or significantly help the political standing of one member over another.

What it will do is increase the influence of those who have to resolve the situation: Mr Ustinov, representing the military leader; Mr Gromyko, who has to deal with the rest of the world; Mr Andropov, who will supervise the consequent crackdown on dissidents and nationalists; Mr Suslov, who has to see the operation justified ideologically; and Mr Brezhnev himself, who has to formulate a replacement to his policy of détente. Their fate depends on their success in dealing with the problem.

Many Russians would like to see changes at the top, if only to get things moving and fresh decisions on such vital matters as the economy.

But changes are unlikely before the next party congress, which is not due for another year. There has been talk of bringing the congress forward to this autumn. But this proposal is of no interest to a leadership interested in preserving the status quo.

So the present leadership, virtually unchanged for half a generation, will continue while the real conflicts of forces—nationalism and regionalism, Westerners and Russian-first Slavophiles, liberals and hardliners, modernizers and ideologues, cautious worriers about international opinion and men with a wish to flex the muscles of a superpower—work themselves out beneath the surface.

Michael Binyon

Pirates could scupper Manila peace moves

Three months ago Filipino pirates hijacked a Malaysian ferry boat in the Sulu Sea separating the two countries—a common enough incident in an area so dense with pirates that ships' captains are routinely advised by their owners to ignore distress calls.

But subsequent investigations by officials from both countries have led to mutual accusations, and threaten to scuttle carefully nurtured moves to improve the strained relations between the two nations.

Manila's claim in 1967 to the Malaysian state of Sabah.

Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie, the Malaysian Home Affairs Minister, and Daruk Hussain Salleh, the Chief Minister of Sabah, alleged in separate press conferences in Sabah in November that the pirates were in fact members of the Philippines Armed Forces—a charge that Rear Admiral Romulo Espaldon, the Southern Philippines military commander, denies.

He says that the pirates were led by a Muslim guerrilla leader who had defected to the Philippines Government and then went back to his former comrades, who have for years been waging a secessionist battle against the administration of President Marcos.

Admiral Espaldon says the problem would be diminished if there was a border pact between Malaysia and the Philippines similar to the one

that Kuala Lumpur already has with Indonesia and Thailand. But Tan Sri Ghazali says a pact is not necessary as the present safeguards and procedures are sufficient to deal with the pirates in the Sulu Sea.

The problems between the two nations stem from differing interpretations of the 1878 treaty by which the Sultan of Sulu (now part of the Philippines) ceded to Britain the territory that became known as British North Borneo and is now the Malaysian state of Sabah. The Filipinos insist that the transfer was not a cession but a loan.

The Philippines' claim to Sabah came when Britain announced its intention to relinquish its control over British North Borneo to enable it to join the proposed Malaysian Federation in 1963, and came just as Indonesia opposed the new grouping and began a policy of confrontation.

Relations between Manila and Kuala Lumpur worsened and although they later improved sufficiently for both countries to join Singapore, Thailand and Indonesia in forming the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean), the continued existence of the claim was a barrier to closer ties.

The Philippines also amended its constitution to incorporate Sabah into its territories and so when President Marcos, at his

speech at the Asean summit meeting in Kuala Lumpur in August, 1977, said he would take steps to disavow the claim, it was seen as a step to make amends. But the quid pro quo that Manila wanted—a border pact—was not acceptable to the Malaysians, who insist that the Marcos statement had no preconditions.

The Philippines also allege that Malaysia is harbouring and supporting the Philippine Muslim rebels who are actively waging a civil war against Manila in the southern Mindanao provinces. This is denied in Kuala Lumpur, although diplomatic sources say that Malaysia has not completely withdrawn its support for the rebels. This has enabled Libyan and other support to flow through Malaysian territory to the southern Philippines.

The Asean countries are worried that the growing estrangement between Kuala Lumpur and Manila is threatening the organization's newly found unity. General Carlos Romulo, the Philippines Foreign Minister, has twice this year declined to come to Kuala Lumpur for urgent meetings of Asean foreign ministers and diplomats. Sources say there are indications that he will continue to do so until Daruk Hussain, the Malaysian Prime Minister, agrees to visit Manila.

No Malaysian Prime Minister has visited Manila since Asean was formed, although

M. G. G. Pillai

Argentina key to success of grain embargo

The success of the American grain embargo against the Soviet Union may depend on the attitude of Argentina, a country whose Government the Carter Administration has condemned throughout its period of office.

Argentina wheat sales to Russia from the harvest now in progress are unlikely to exceed one million tons. But in April, the feed grain and oilseed harvest will be brought in, and between maize, sorghum and soybean nearly 17 million tons should be available for export, the amount which President Carter is withholding from the Soviet Union.

Argentina has close economic links with the United States and its military Government has always professed to uphold Western values of civilization. Yet, in Argentine eyes, when the country was facing well-armed Marxist guerrillas, who

had taken over half a province and had shot down aircraft with surface-to-air missiles, President Carter's State Department roundly condemned the methods used to defeat the guerrillas.

Economically the United States has pushed Argentina towards the Soviet Union. When an American company wished to tender for the supply of turbines to the Yacretá hydroelectric dam, the State Department ordered the American Exportbank to withhold export finance. As a result the Russians were invited to take over the huge hydro-electric project of Paraná Medio.

During this period Argentina's exports to the Soviet Union increased enormously. In 1975, Russia became Argentina's best individual customer for agricultural produce, purchases totalling \$320m (£142m). Most civilians involved in, or

friendly to, the military Government wish the United States well and support it in the Afghan crisis. Foreign Ministry officials hoped that this would produce an opportunity for rapprochement with the United States before the publication of the report of the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights next month. But Argentina's Government is composed of members of the Armed Forces, and the military will neither forgive nor forget.

So somewhat precipitately Brigadier Carlos Washington Pastor, the Foreign Minister, declared that Argentina would not collaborate in any embargo. The reasons given were that Argentina was not consulted before President Carter's announcement, that Argentina conducted an independent foreign policy, that trade should not be subject to dogmatic considerations, and that economic

sanctions were not an effective political weapon. The policy of non-collaboration has received vociferous support from all the old-time politicians, as well as the Argentinean's peculiar brand of politicians who envy there is a rich seam of anti-Americanism to be mined, and even if Brigadier Pastor wished to modify his position domestic propaganda reasons may prevent him.

The situation is one of the United States' creating. While the Shah ruled the world's second largest oil-exporting country, his much more repressive regime received American support. Argentina's position as the world's third biggest exporter of food was not considered in the attacks on its military Government. It will have to be considered now.

Tony Emerson

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Appointments Vacant
also on page 23

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The Governors of Farringtons School, Chislehurst, Kent, BR7 6LR, invite applications for the post of Bursar. An appointment is expected to be made for August 1st at the latest upon the retirement of the present Bursar. The salary will be within the P.O. Scale 1 depending upon qualifications and experience.

Farringtons is a boarding and day school with 500 girls aged 5-18 and is administered by the Board of Management for Methodist Residential Schools. Full details of this post may be obtained from the Headmistress.

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GENERAL VACANCIES

AUTHOR seeks competent male or female housekeeper some cooking as of March. Free to travel. 1000 ft. to France. Write or phone 10 St. John's Road, Richmond, 01-910 9333.

FRENCH SPEAKING STUDENTS invited to art & design on French camp sites for 1980. 6-8th May to July or July to end of September. Applications from 10 St. John's Road, Richmond, 01-910 9333. Full details about journal, meals, etc. on request. Write to: Mrs. J. Sutton, Room 329, Postal Headquarters, St. Martin's-le-Grand, LONDON

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Stock markets
FT Ind 448.7 down 2.1
FT Gilt 68.25 down 0.68

Sterling
\$ 2.2785 down 5 points
Index 72.1 up 0.3

Dollar
Index 84.7 up 0.1

Gold
\$705 an ounce up 55

Money
3 mth £ 171 to 173
3 mth Euros 14 1/2 to 14 1/4
6 mth Euros 14 1/4 to 14 1/2

IN BRIEF

EEC seeks to borrow an additional £315m

The European Commission has decided to apply to the EEC Council of Ministers for authorization to borrow funds amounting to 500m units of account (£315m) on capital markets to finance the second half of the Community financing instrument known as the Ortolani facility.

As with the first 500m unit of account borrowing, which was authorized in May last year, the funds will be used to help finance infrastructure and energy projects in the Community with the wider objective of contributing to the greater convergence and integration of the economies of the member states.

The Commission is also proposing that funds raised through the facility should be used in urban renewal programmes together with cash provided by national and local authorities.

£350,000m oil reserves
Britain's recoverable oil reserves valued at January, 1980 prices are worth about £350,000m or 220 per cent of the latest government estimate of the gross national product, Mr. Kenneth Grey, Minister of State for Energy, said yesterday. Gas reserves are valued at about half the oil reserve figure.

Brush closure plan

Brush Power have announced plans to close its switchgear factory at Banbury, Oxfordshire in the summer, making 190 people redundant. Production will be concentrated at Bridgend, in south Wales.

Rediffon sign £25m deal

Rediffon Simulation, a subsidiary of the British company Rediffusion, has signed a deal thought to be worth around £25m with the Boeing Commercial Airplane Company for simulation of jet aircraft pilots will learn to fly the new generation of jet fighters.

AMC £2m bond issue

The Agricultural Mortgage Corporation is to issue £2m worth of 15 per cent bonds on January 30 at £100 per cent. The bonds will be redeemed at par on January 30 next year and are registered and transferable in multiples of £1,000 free of stamp duty.

Stock oversubscribed

Felixstowe Dock, the European Ferries subsidiary, saw its 1984 preference stock to raise £6.5m oversubscribed yesterday. Applications were received for £6.83m one minute after lists opened. The minimum price for partial allotment was £98 and the average price obtained was £98.43.

Shipyards credits

Better credit terms for the British shipbuilding industry coupled with demands for the introduction of a comprehensive scrap and recycling scheme and improved measures to assist the restructuring of the European shipbuilding industry are to be urged next month by British Euro-MPs, says Mr. Richard Caborn, European Labour MP for Sheffield.

Postal business sets unchanged financial targets for next 3 years

By Peter Hill

The Government announced yesterday that the present financial target for the postal business of the Post Office is to remain unchanged for the next three years.

The 2 per cent return on turnover will continue until 1982-83 and will span the period when the structure of the Post Office is reshaped. Legislation is planned to divide the postal and telecommunications functions into separate corporations.

Announcing the financial objective for the postal service, Mr. Adam Butler, Minister for Industry, said that the Government attached great importance to improving productivity and preventing any rise in real unit costs over the five financial years from 1977-78 costs.

News of the maintained financial target came as plans were revealed for increasing postal order charges and some National Girobank charges within the next two months. Rising operating costs are expected to produce an estimated £2m loss on the postal order service in the present financial year as volume declines.

Mr. Butler said that, in agreeing the target for the postal business with the PO board, the Government had taken account of the postal order service's findings that, despite competition from other means of communication, the Post Office should be able to provide a good service without subsidy. The target, he said, would enable the postal business to meet its investment needs from profits and depreciation.

Last year the postal service made a profit of £33.1m, but in the first half of the current financial year the postal operation is thought to have recorded a loss of about £12m. When the final results are published early next month (Feb), the Post Office expects a substantial recovery, broadly in line with the 2 per cent objective. In its latest financial year the postal business lost £1.5m, financing and paid back £8.7 million of loans.

Some 60 major airlines decided today to seek permission to increase air fares by between 5 and 10 per cent from April 1, with corresponding rises for freight rates of up to 13 per cent in some areas from March 1.

The decision came at the end of an eight-day meeting here, under the auspices of the International Air Transport Association (IATA), in which the main United States companies did not participate.

North Atlantic and Middle East flights will cost passengers about 10 per cent more. Air travellers within Europe are more fortunate, with a 5 per cent rise in prospect.

If, as expected, fuel costs continue to rise, the next round of increases will be on July 1, the airlines have agreed on a trigger mechanism for automatic increases of up to 6 per cent each quarter. Above that, they will hold special meetings, like this one, to decide on a figure.

This is the fourth price rise since the beginning of last year, bringing the overall rise since then to about 30 per cent.

IATA officials point out that with ever heavier bills the proportion of airline expenditure on fuel is now approaching one third of total costs—about the same as for staff. They expect fuel to become the largest item in the course of the year.

Capital investment on the postal business is expected to rise at about £60m in each of the next three years, although final details have still to be settled with the Government.

Much of the money will be used to complete the letter mechanisation programme.

An indication of the recovery made on the postal business was given yesterday by Sir William Barlow, Post Office chairman, who said postal delays had been reduced to their lowest level for some months. After the disruption caused by labour problems and letter bomb scares, delayed letters had fallen to 2,000,000, of which only about 0.4 per cent were first class letters. This compared with a total of 31,000,000 letters a day while in July last year delayed letters had totalled more than a day's deliveries.

Sir William—who has recently written to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry justifying the Post Office's monopoly of addressed mail—emphasized that there was still some way to go before all first class mail was delivered the next day.

The increased charges on postal orders and National Girobank services were submitted to the Post Office Users' National Council yesterday.

Postal order charges will rise by about one-third, with some exemptions, the statement said. Fees for international Giro services are being increased, the debit transaction charges on overdraft accounts is being raised from 10p to 20p and fees for non-Giro payments at Post Offices to the credit of Giro customers will be increased from 20p to 25p.

The objective will be to provide and promote alternative money transfer services more suitable to modern conditions, the statement said.

For international Giro services are being increased, the debit transaction charges on overdraft accounts is being raised from 10p to 20p and fees for non-Giro payments at Post Offices to the credit of Giro customers will be increased from 20p to 25p.

Yet investors who scrambled to secure stock at £25 1/32—the stock has been issued in £25 paid form—found themselves sitting on losses of more than 11 points by the end of the day as the price slipped back to £24.

Although the market was in retreat as profit-takers gained the upper hand, a somewhat ludicrous position developed in the new long-dated stock. Not only could investors who rushed to buy at £25 1/32 have

trading in London from a Hong-kong close of \$680. The price was still very vulnerable to rumours about political developments in Iran, the United States and the Soviet Union. However, President Carter's pledge to use force in the Gulf, if necessary, did not upset the bullion markets much.

Silver, which has been caught in the same speculative bubble as gold, also gained some ground, closing at \$50.50 up at 1,665-1,800p. The price was driven up early yesterday morning, but trading in London slackened off markedly towards the end of the day.

In Zurich gold traders closed

for the afternoon to catch up on the backlog of administrative work built up in the frantic markets earlier this week and last. Morning trading was again very busy.

At 5705 an ounce gold cost 34 per cent more yesterday than at the beginning of this year. Foreign exchange markets continued calm yesterday. The dollar and the pound gained ground on average. Sterling was 0.3 points higher on the effective rate at 72.1 per cent of its end-1971 value and down 5 points against the dollar at \$2.2785.

Mr. Dimbleby said last night: "Obviously we are delighted because we have been looking around for ways to extend the area of broadcasting."

The IBA has carefully covered itself over the prospect of starting the channel by stating that, although applications are invited, it is giving no undertaking that one will be set up.

But the feeling within the existing companies is that the IBA would not have gone as far as it did yesterday without a firm intention to proceed.

In that case, there may be those among this morning's pre-occupied programme controllers who turn out in the long run, to be breakfast channel "moles".

David Hewson

Combined operation

Wilkinson Sword and Bryant and May consumer products are being placed under a single operating board by the parent company, Wilkinson Match.

Mr. R. H. Armitage becomes deputy managing director in charge of the consumer products. He reports to Mr. John Bloxidge, who joined the company last October.

Howe warning on the hard road to recovery

By Caroline Atkinson

Britain faces another year at least of uncomfortably high inflation and pressure on living standards, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said last night in a speech to the Finance Houses Association.

He insisted, however, that the country was on the road to recovery, even if this road should prove long and hard, and that, if necessary, the British people should accept lower real wages to get inflation down.

In a possible guide to his Budget, Sir Geoffrey referred to the argument over the appropriate level of public borrowing in the financial year 1980-81. He appeared to agree with those who argue that government borrowing should be allowed in time of recession,

to rise above what it would otherwise be.

Since taking office both he and Mr. Nigel Lawson, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, seem to have relaxed their view about the public sector borrowing requirement.

However, it is still almost certain that the budget will take more money out of the economy than is put in by tax cuts. This is because the upward pressure on the PSBR next year is likely to be considerable. The Treasury ministers are still concerned to hold down the PSBR as much as they can in order to ensure control of the money supply.

Sir Geoffrey hinted that the government might favour changes in the present system of money control. This has been the subject of much discussion between the Treasury and the Bank of

England, who are preparing a joint consultative paper on the topic.

The Chancellor confirmed that this would be published soon. It will probably see the light of day in February, well before the originally scheduled time for publication.

Sir Geoffrey raised the question whether the instruments which the government uses to influence the behaviour of the banking system, or to persuade people outside the banking system to make up government debt, were sufficient. Many people have criticized the government and the Bank of England for the volatile nature of the gilt-edged market and erratic government debt sales.

The Chancellor appeared to be sympathetic to some of these criticisms as he suggested that changes might be made, in the light of the public debate about

the consultative document if they could smooth the path of money growth and get rid of the feast and famine on the gilt-edged market.

The Treasury appears more enthusiastic than the Bank about changing the system of controlling the money supply and about changing the method of funding government debt.

However, Sir Geoffrey stressed that changes in technique would not make the underlying problems and tensions disappear. He showed signs of greater appreciation of the complexities of money control and its use to control inflation and commented that both money growth and inflation reflected all sorts of forces inside and outside the economy.

The Chancellor said that of all our difficulties inflation was the most persistent and most

important to fight.

Sir Geoffrey defended his last Budget cuts in income tax and said they were an essential part of restoring incentives to the enterprise sector of the economy. He also rejected arguments against the public spending cuts in which the government is now engaged.

The country should not attempt to provide itself with a standard of public services which it could no longer afford.

The government intends to restrict demand by controlling the money supply and keeping its borrowing down. It is looking to the supply side of the economy to provide growth.

Lower real wages would in the end enable living standards to rise and inflation to decline as output and investment went up, according to the Chancellor.

Turkey devalues lira 50 pc to combat runaway inflation

From Sinan Fisek

Ankara, Jan 24
Turkey's minority conservative government of Mr. Süleyman Demirel today devalued the lira by nearly 50 per cent in a measure aimed, it said, to "revitalize the economy".

The devaluation, which raises the exchange rate of the dollar from 47.10 to 70 lira, was announced seven hours after the start of a cabinet meeting to discuss economic measures aimed at restoring order to the Turkish economy.

A communiqué said the values of other currencies would be adjusted later by the Turkish Central Bank. If the pound is made to gain to the Turkish lira as much as the dollar has its rate of exchange should go up from 106.33 to 158.03.

The government thus appears to have abolished the "double standard" applied to the Turkish lira over the past two years, which officially kept it at a low level but paid a "bonus" to practically all currency imports to maintain the exchange rate within limits black market dealings.

In an effort to "encourage the economy, increase hard currency incomes and fight inflation", the government announced, taxes on imports had also been raised from 25 per cent to 1 per cent.

Further details of the economic measures are expected to be made public in the next few days. Among them it is expected there will be an increase in the price of petroleum products. Observers say the increase could be anywhere between 20 per cent and 100 per cent.

After the measures are made public a high ranking delegation is expected to leave for Washington to hold talks with the International Monetary Fund in order to secure a second tranche of \$78m (£34.2m) of IMF credits due to Turkey.

Economic observers in Ankara said the measures had been discussed at technical talks over the past three days between officials of the Turkish Finance Ministry and state planning organizations, and Mr. Demirel's cabinet. The Turkish section of the Organization for European Cooperation and Development.

This new package is part of the draconian measures which Western economists believe Turkey must take in order to combat efficiently an annual inflation rate of over 100 per cent, production cuts of more than 50 per cent and an unemployment rate of over 25 per cent, which have left the Turkish economy in a shambles over the past two years.

Financial Editor, page 19

produce a new long-dated stock to replace the old one. But with the market looking rather soggy last night and clearly needing time to digest the very large purchases of gilts that have been made over recent weeks, the authorities may choose to bid their time.

Opinions do in any case differ as to just how much more funding the government is said to need to do over the rest of the financial year.

It would be surprising, however, if it did not need to produce at least one more large stock, particularly if it is kept to bring monetary growth back to a middle, or the opposite to the upper end of its target range, as quickly as possible.

Financial Editor, page 19

trading in London from a Hong-kong close of \$680. The price was still very vulnerable to rumours about political developments in Iran, the United States and the Soviet Union. However, President Carter's pledge to use force in the Gulf, if necessary, did not upset the bullion markets much.

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In Zurich gold traders closed

British Steel's prices well above those of European competitors

Sharp differences have emerged between European steel and British Steel Corporation prices which could produce a further switch to imports when the four-week-old BSC strike is resolved.

Across a range of a dozen key products, BSC prices are between £3 and £54 a tonne higher than elsewhere in Europe. In only one case is BSC cheaper than its competitors.

A detailed comparison has been made by the British Iron and Steel Consumers' Council, the industry's watchdog. It shows that—on the basis of the latest guidance prices laid down under the EEC Commission's stabilization plan for the industry—the European price for hot rolled coil is £170.50 a tonne against £173.50 at BSC.

At the other end of the scale, the survey shows that for steel sections the guidance price, which is the price pro-

ducers are urged to secure—stands at £174 a tonne against a BSC basis price of £228.

For hot rolled parrot strip the guide price is £170.50 a tonne against a BSC price of £195, while wire rod differential is a BSC price of £199 a tonne against a guidance price of £178.50.

The council noted, however, that large United Kingdom consumers have been able to secure substantial quantity discounts below the BSC basis prices. Evidence collected by the council suggested that EEC prices for the full range of flat products—coil, sheet and plate—were "well below the guidance prices and are expected to weaken still further."

BSC has sought to underline the disparity between its prices and those of its competitors. Industrial consumers who have suffered as a result of the

current strike can be expected to secure further contracts with foreign steelmakers.

Between 1973-74 and 1978-79, while the overall United Kingdom market has fallen, BSC's share of the market has slipped from 62 per cent to 54 per cent, while the share held by imported steel has crept up from 13 per cent to 20 per cent.

After a round of BSC price increases last year, imports rose, and in the case of sections doubled in volume, as the corporation's export trade was hit by the strengthening value of sterling. The corporation plans to hold prices to as near the basis level as possible.

BSC's emphasis in the current dispute on securing wage increases through self-financing productivity deals underscores its commitment to holding on to its market without adding further to its costs.

Consortium puts in its bid for MG

By Barron Phillips

Ascon Martin, which is leading a consortium bidding for British Leyland's MG operation, has itself been the subject of takeover talks.

But Mr. Alan Curtis, the chairman, who owns a 42 per cent stake in Ascon Martin, said that the approach from two German businessmen was a "non-starter".

Mr. Curtis yesterday led a consortium which finally made a firm cash bid for BL's MG sports car operations.

News that the offer has reached Mr. Harold Musgrove, managing director of Austin Morris, came after reports that BL had imposed several deadlines—now all passed—for the receipt of a firm bid.

No figure has been disclosed but it is believed the consortium is offering about £30m for the MG operation, for which it wants to acquire the whole of BL including its name.

That is likely to be one of the major sticking points in any negotiations because BL has consistently said it will not sell the marque.

Mr. Curtis said yesterday that he had no idea how long BL would deliberate "but both they and the consortium are aware of the necessity to conclude the matter as soon as possible."

BL must make a quick decision because the MG factory at Abingdon, Berkshire, is earmarked to play a part in production of the Honda-BL car planned for next year. A decision has been delayed since the first suggestion three months ago that the consortium was interested in maintaining production of an MG sports car.

Britain protests over Norway oil contracts

By John Huxley

Britain has protested to the Norwegian government over a lack of construction work and service contracts for the Statfjord oil field being awarded to British companies.

Mr. Hamish Gray, Minister of State at the Department of Energy, said he was not satisfied with the Norwegian record and had made his concern clear.

It is understood that the award of work for structures in the oilfield, which straddles the line dividing the British and Norwegian sectors, is one of the issues discussed when Mr. Gray met his opposite number recently. Mr. Bjartmar Gjerd, the Norwegian Minister of Petroleum and Energy, is on a three-day visit to the United Kingdom.

In a written reply to a question from Mr. Sydney Chapman, Conservative MP for Chipping Barnet, Mr. Gray said yesterday that he had emphasized to the Norwegians the need to have a regime of international competitive bidding for the third platform for the field.

He hoped that, under this regime, "competitive British companies might have the opportunity to enhance the United Kingdom's involvement in the project. So far, this involvement has been disappointing, especially considering that the British National Oil Cor-

poration has more than a 5 per cent share in the field.

The operating staff on the A, or first, production platform was 95 per cent Norwegian and only 1.2 per cent British. The concrete base and steel deck for the platform were built in Norway. Its weight is 13,000 tonnes, which carry equipment and accommodation. Of the rest, only three were fabricated in the United Kingdom.

Norway is also building the concrete base and steel deck for the B platform. Britain was unsuccessful in competing for the module contracts, 12 of which went to Norwegian industry, the other six going to France. Statfjord, which was discovered in 1974, is the largest oilfield in the North Sea.

Development of the field, which is being handled by Mobil Exploration Norway, has been much delayed and costs have soared.

British and Norwegian licenses signed a joint venture unit operating agreement covering the field in June last year, after more than five years of discussions.

The total British share in the field is a little more than 11 per cent. Apart from BNO, other members of the Statfjord group are Statoil (the Norwegian state oil organization), Mobil, Conoco, Esso, Shell, Gulf, Saga Petroleum, Amerada, Amoco and Texas Eastern.



The British Petroleum Company Limited Ordinary Shares of 25p each

Offer for Sale by the Bank of England on behalf of H.M. Government

Final Instalment Due 6th February 1980

The Bank of England wish to remind holders of Letters of Acceptance that the final instalment of £2.13 per Share MUST BE PAID BY 3 P.M. ON 6TH FEBRUARY. Cheques for the amounts due, made payable to the Bank of England and crossed "Not negotiable—BP Shares" must be forwarded, with the LETTERS OF ACCEPTANCE, TO THE APPROPRIATE RECEIVING BANK WHOSE NAME AND ADDRESS APPEARS IN THE BOX ON THE RIGHT-HAND SIDE OF PAGE 1 OF LETTERS OF ACCEPTANCE.

Registration of Renunciation

The attention of holders of renounced Letters of Acceptance, i.e., those with Form X completed or marked "Original duly renounced", is drawn to instruction 5 on page 3 of the Letter. The removal of United Kingdom exchange controls means that the declaration at the foot of Form Y on page 4 need no longer be made. Accordingly it may be deleted when Form Y is signed prior to lodgment of fully paid Letters for registration of renunciation on or before 3 p.m. on 20th February.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises		Mount Lyall	
Anglo Amer Ind	40p to 850p	17p to 118p	
Grainview	25c to 825c	5p to 45p	
Howard & Wym	2p to 10p	100c to 775c	
Mineville	75c to 440c	35c to 305c	
Metals Expor	8p to 71p	25c to 725c	

Falls		Hunting Gibson	
Aero & Gen	10p to 205p	6p to 305p	
BBR	4p to 33p	7p to 225p	
Change Wares	11p to 71p	10p to 185p	
Davy Corp	15p to 51p	7p to 105p	
Grattan Wase	8p to 99p	Wankie Colliery	5p to 61p

THE POUND		Bank	
Bank	buys	Bank	buys
Australia \$	2.11	Norway Kr	11.32
Austria Sch	29.75	Portugal Esc	112.00
Belgium Fr	68.25	South Africa Rd	2.02
Canada \$	2.69	Spain Pta	157.00
Denmark Kr	12.77	Sweden Kr	9.78
Finland Mk	8.70	Switzerland Fr	3.54
France Fr	9.52	USA \$	2.27
Germany Dm	4.12	Yugoslavia Dnr	49.00
Greece Dr	101.00		
Hongkong \$	31.32		
Italy Lira	567.00		
Japan Yen	350.00		
Netherlands Gld	4.55		

Secret group swings IBA behind new channel for morning viewing 'Moles' surface in the breakfast TV thriller

Programme executives within the IBA companies and BBC will go to work this morning preoccupied with the thought of tracing the "moles" within their ranks.

Yesterday's announcement that the Independent Broadcasting Authority was to consider applications for a breakfast television channel has struck deep into the commercial companies' establishment.

What has hurt particularly is that the companies know the idea for the channel came from established broadcasters and journalists who used their expertise to swing the IBA in favour of retaining for the large part, anonymous.

And for good reason. It has been made clear both within the BBC and existing commercial companies that anyone associated with consortia competing for the new ITV franchise will face disciplinary action or even dismissal.

Western nations agree that bullion should back substitution account

The main IMF countries go for gold

Top United States officials have lost no time in denying recent rumours of a "remonetization" of gold. But at the same time it is acknowledged that the International Monetary Fund has floated the idea of using some of its vast store of gold as a capital guarantee for its proposed substitution account.

The contradiction can only be partly resolved. Mr Anthony Solomon, outgoing Deputy Secretary at the United States Treasury, has insisted that the use of gold as backing for the substitution account would not amount to remonetization. There is no question of bringing gold back as a means of settling debts between central banks, nor of reintroducing the convertibility of the dollar or any other currency into gold.

Nonetheless, gold's importance in the world money system would surely be enhanced if it were to be used in the substitution account, even if its use was limited to providing an ultimate backing for the capital of the account.

The IMF interest in using gold springs less from the present drama in the world's bullion markets than from the inherent problems in designing a substitution account.

Major Western countries now seem united in their desire to win approval for the account at the IMF's interim committee meeting in Hamburg at the end of April. Some had even hoped to get it agreed before then, although this prospect has dimmed in recent weeks. The drive to resolve the outstanding difficulties is on.

The aim of the proposed account is to take some of the world's unwanted dollars out of the international money system. Under the scheme, countries would be able to exchange some of their official holdings of dollars for the IMF's own paper money, the Special Drawing Rights (SDR). This is based on a basket of IMF currencies.

A stumbling block for the scheme is the obvious danger that the dollars which the IMF receives might fall in value in relation to the SDRs which it issues. Who should bear the exchange rate risk—the United States government, as issuer of the dollars, or the IMF?

OFFICIAL GOLD HOLDINGS OF MAJOR COUNTRIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND, END 1979

USA	M.03
GERMANY	263.2
SWITZERLAND	94.9
FRANCE	84.3
ITALY	81.6
NETO	66.5
OPEC TOTAL	38.4
IMF*	100.00

* Approx at end May, 1980.

Previous American opposition to the idea of a substitution account has largely been based on its unwillingness to bear the potential cost. The United States administration has been backing a third proposal for some time. But it's anyone's guess whether Congress, which would have to approve it in the end, would be willing to underwrite the account.

It could be equally hard to get other IMF members to agree that they would be responsible for bridging the potential gap between the dollar assets of the account and its SDR liabilities. Hence the attraction of using gold, of which the IMF still has plenty, as a backing for the capital of the account. It is apparently a painless way of getting round the problem of the exchange risk.

But it has many serious flaws, the first of which is the sheer amount of gold that would be necessary to provide an adequate capital guarantee. The IMF will have 100m ounces of gold in its coffers when the present programme of gold auctions finishes in May. Estimates inside the Fund suggest that the amount of this might eventually be necessary to back up the substitution account, if the gold plan were adopted.

This leads to the second, possibly insuperable, problem. The use of gold would have to be sanctioned by an 85 per cent majority in the IMF. This would require the support of many less developed nations as well as the big industrialized countries and Opec.

Indications at the moment are that

most developing countries would strongly oppose the idea. They are not particularly interested in the substitution account anyway.

It will, after all, primarily help rich countries. The United States would benefit by easing the burdens imposed by the reserve role of the dollar and its consequent vulnerability to foreign exchange markets. West Germany and other countries with strong currencies would welcome an account which took some of the upward pressure off their currencies by providing another outlet for unwanted dollars. Oil exporters would be able to diversify their reserves out of dollars without upsetting currency markets and driving down the value of their remaining dollar holdings.

Other industrialized nations including Britain back the substitution account in the belief that any move to stabilize world financial markets is a good thing. But it would provide no positive benefit for the poorer developing countries.

These countries will probably not oppose the account itself in April, but would be against the tying up IMF gold in it. They would prefer that the gold be used to help them directly, to finance their balance of payments for example. The profits from the IMF series of gold auctions have been used to give soft loans to developing countries.

The gold plan is just one of several aimed at getting round the exchange risk problem. The United States, Western Germany, Japan, Britain and France will probably push hard for agreement on one of them in Hamburg.

It could still take a year or more to set up the account, as some countries may need legislation to approve it. Although the IMF appears to be aiming for an eventual size of about \$50,000m, the account is likely to be nearer \$10,000m when and if it is first set up. Both these sums of course are dwarfed by the total amount of money on the Euromarkets, which will still be able to upset currency markets.

Caroline Atkinson

Mitsubishi releases shipment for Chrysler

Chrysler Corporation announced in Detroit that Mitsubishi Motors has released a United States-bound shipment of 2,000 cars and trucks, delayed by a credit dispute, following an agreement under which Chrysler will pay Mitsubishi within 15 days of delivery.

Chrysler, which is Mitsubishi's American distributor, said the agreement may not apply to future car shipments. It is continuing negotiations with Japanese banks to obtain financing for future shipments.

Meanwhile, in yet another effort to lure shoppers to its showrooms, Chrysler has promised a major new marketing programme. Details are not yet known, but last week the company launched a "money-back guarantee" scheme in Salt Lake City whereby Chrysler will refund the full purchase price of a new car to a buyer who, for any reason within the first 30 days or 1,000 miles, decides against the purchase.

Gas find in China

Three new natural gas fields with abundant reserves have been discovered in the eastern part of Sichuan province, the People's Daily reports in Peking. The newspaper gave no figures on estimated reserves, but said prospects were encouraging for future discoveries and development in the area.

Saudi ENI decision

Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi oil minister, has ruled out any possibility for the moment of re-activating the direct oil supply deal with Italian state oil company ENI, suspended last December. Centrio Fio Venezia, an Italian trade organization has announced in Rome.

Australian M3 rises

Australia's seasonally adjusted M3 money supply rose \$A501m (about £247m) in December to \$A47,050m after rising a marginally downward revised \$A60m to \$A46,550m in November.

Hongkong trade deficit

Hongkong's visible trade deficit narrowed to \$HK\$35m (about £78m) in December from a revised \$HK\$89m deficit in November and a \$HK\$1,290m deficit in December, 1979.

Banks woo Rhodesia

Chase Manhattan Bank and Citibank officials based in Johannesburg are competing with one another to court Rhodesian banks in an effort to secure a good portion of that country's business after a government is elected next month. Rhodesia has an ambitious five-year development plan, and hundreds of millions of dollars in foreign loans will be needed.

US car sales fall 24pc

The pace of domestic United States new-car sales in mid-January fell 24 per cent from a year earlier, it has been reported from Detroit. General Motors sold 13 per cent fewer than a year earlier. Ford Motor Corporation sales fell more than 30 per cent, and Chrysler posted a 40 per cent drop. But sales of Volkswagen of America rose more than 19 per cent and American Motors rose an estimated 9 per cent.

Chilean miners turn down offer

Santiago, Jan 24.—Workers at the strike-bound El Teniente copper mine voted overwhelmingly to reject the Chilean Government's offer of pay raises 9 per cent higher than the cost of living.

With about 75 per cent of the votes counted, miners were about two to one against the offer.

The 15-month proposed contract also called for annual production bonuses ranging from 45 to 65 per cent of monthly salaries. Salaried miners at about the equivalent of \$56 a month.

"Unless something happens to change the vote, in which about 66 per cent of the workers have rejected the company offer, we'll have a legal strike beginning on Friday," said Senator Guillermo Medina, leader of eight-union negotiating group.

A shutdown at the giant, government-owned mine, second largest in Chile, would be a serious economic blow. The mine produces some 280,000 tonnes of finished copper a year. Prices of copper are at their highest for years.

The strike is the largest in Chile since Marxist President Salvador Allende was toppled by General Augusto Pinochet in 1973.

Strikes were illegal in Chile until last June, when the Government adopted a new labour code.

NEDC chief calls for legislation on industrial democracy

By Patricia Tisdall

Lack of proper consultation between workers and managers was a basic cause of industrial problems, Mr Geoffrey Chandler, director general of the National Economic Development Office, said yesterday.

Mr Chandler who was speaking at a chamber of commerce lunch in Aberdeen strongly advocated legislation as the best method of ensuring that companies and plant level.

Legislation would not be a burden to the smaller company because "those which are worth their salt will already be using the advantages of their smallness to involve their employees," he said.

Statutory consultative arrangements involving management and workforce representatives would require the provision of intelligible information. It would put pressure on managers to present the facts of company life clearly to employees and put pressure on them to shoulder the responsibility of understanding and responding to these facts once they are accepted.

"I believe that the identity of the individual with the success of the enterprise for which he or she works... could be a strong weapon for putting pressure both on bad management, bad trade unionism, and bad workforce representation where they exist, to improve performance. No other single measure could have such significance as this in the long run."

The effectiveness of the National Economic Development Council as a stimulus to change could be strengthened as a result. The problem was of ensuring that companies had effective links with their workers.

NEDO's sector committees and companies. "One of the inhibiting factors in this is the lack of effective consultative and communication mechanisms within companies." Mr Chandler did not refer directly to Labour's proposals for worker participation. But he described the legacy of the Bullock Report as "unfortunate."

However, he believes that the time is ripe for establishing statutory consultative procedures. He did not speculate on the form of legislation except to say that it should concern itself with broad objectives.

Industrialists' main objections to the previous Government's proposals were that trade unions were to be the main channel for consultation and that companies would have to appoint worker directors.

Key question for NEB on Insac's role

By Kenneth Owen

The future role of Insac Products, the computer software marketing subsidiary of the National Enterprise Board, is likely to be clarified after today's meeting of the NEB under its chairman, Sir Arthur Knight.

At present Insac markets the software products of its five member companies and finances the development by them of agreed new products. A condition of Insac membership is that the NEB shall hold a stake in the member company.

A key question which the NEB faces today is the desirability of opening up the Insac operation to non-members. One member, Systems Programming, is already negotiating with the

member companies and finances the development by them of agreed new products. A condition of Insac membership is that the NEB shall hold a stake in the member company.

A key question which the NEB faces today is the desirability of opening up the Insac operation to non-members. One member, Systems Programming, is already negotiating with the

NEB for the disposal of the board's holding in it to the private sector; and the continued membership of another member, Logica, is in doubt.

Even if membership of Insac Products were to remain at about the present level there would be good reasons for widening its role to include the overseas marketing of non-members' products.



Mr Wesley Howe: Britain "hospitable" to his company.

£9m medical plant for Plymouth

The multinational medical product company Becton Dickinson announced plans for a £9m manufacturing base employing 250 people in Plymouth yesterday.

Mr Wesley Howe, company president, said the company's decision to invest in the United Kingdom was based on changes in public policy which have offered the advantages of setting up business in tax havens.

The continuation of stock relief tax, crucially important to an operation such as the firm plans, was one of the key reasons behind the decision. When Becton Dickinson, which is based in New Jersey and has 12 other plants including France and Spain, started to look for a new European manufacturing base, Britain was not originally on its list of potential sites.

But changes made in United Kingdom business taxation, though subtle, were of the utmost importance, he added.

Business appointments

New Northern Engineering chairman

Mr Duncan McDonald has been appointed executive chairman of Northern Engineering Industries in succession to Sir James Woodhouse. Mr McDonald was previously group managing director.

Mr McDonald, who is chairman of Eise Bird Confectionery Holdings, succeeding Mr S. T. Bridgewater, who becomes deputy chairman and will continue as managing director of the company. Mr Nassar is also to become chairman of Jantar in succession to Mr Jonathan Janson, who is appointed deputy chairman of the company. Both Mr Janson and Mr Bridgewater have joined the board of Pioneer International (Group Services).

Mr S. T. Bridgewater has joined the board of Jantar and Mr Jonathan Janson the board of Blue Bird Confectionery. Mr Kenneth Jamieson has been made managing director of Eurocom Data.

Mr H. A. Burch has been appointed to the board of Lynton Commercial Units. Mr Geoffrey E. J. has been appointed director of the newly created pharmaceutical division of Roche Products.

Mr George Martin has been appointed a director and chief executive of Plessey.

Mr J. H. Paulson, Mr A. J. P. Simon and Mr C. W. M. Wilson have been appointed to the board of Eume Investment.

Mr R. W. Witter and Dr D. W. Christie have become directors of Merck Sharp & Dohme.

Mr R. Beatty has been made a director and deputy chairman of British Celanese.

Mr R. C. Coke Wallis, Mr A. E. Johns, Mr I. R. McNeil, Mr M. T. Samuels and Mr J. M. A. Todd have been appointed to the board of F-E Consulting Group.

Mr P. Colclough is to become chairman of the executive committee of Fowler Machinery in succession to Mr J. A. Howard who has relinquished the appointment of chief executive. He will continue as a member of the board and as deputy chairman.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Threat to UK car industry

From Mr P. Holroyd

Sir, In view of the recent interest in the future of United Kingdom car production, and industrial colleague and I decided to look in some detail at the prospects for the next five years. No large complex computer forecasting models are required.

A straightforward calculation using a simple and effective but little known approach known as Substitution Analysis indicates the possibility that, unless positive counter action is taken, then by 1982 the United Kingdom manufacturers could have only 30 per cent of the market, and that by 1985 this could have decreased further to 18 per cent and still be declining.

These figures correspond to actual United Kingdom production levels (including export models) changing from 950,000 in 1980 to 740,000 in 1982, and to 450,000 in 1985. It is doubtful if the United Kingdom car industry can survive such a lowering of activity in such a short time. And yet, this is likely to be the case if the United Kingdom consumer continues to show a preference for imported cars, whatever the reasons.

Unfortunately, it is well known that product substitutions dependent upon a perceived (real or imaginary) superiority of one product for another are difficult to alter once they become established. Consequently, unless dramatic action is undertaken then the prospects seem to favour a greater than 50 per cent reduction in United Kingdom car manufacturing within the next five years, with all the associated problems that this will bring to the extensive support industries car manufacturing has generated.

The large scale remedies to this situation are clear, but unlikely.

A rapid change of purchasing attitude by United Kingdom customers. A high quality reliable United Kingdom car being made and recognised as such by the public.

Unit labour costs in the United Kingdom quickly reducing to competitive levels. Voluntary restriction of further imports to this country by foreign manufacturers.

The imposing of import controls by the British Government.

On the other hand the major factors which will further the decline of the United Kingdom car industry seem equally clear—but more than likely.

Increases in fuel prices will not just round the committee tables but essentially in the market places overseas and at home of some thousands of motorists. Lord McAlpine and I had the great privilege of starting two such bodies—the Export Council for Europe in 1960 and the British National Export Council in 1964. In 1971, our "death sentence" was signed by the then government, so we have the dubious distinction of being one of the earliest quangos to go out of existence and in our case to be taken over by the staff of the Civil Service and to be renamed the British Overseas Trade Board.

After such a traumatic experience it is still difficult to be totally impartial. We believed, and still believe, that the work of export promotion was best undertaken by people whose careers would not be affected if it occurred that the quango was—and who can say that in promotion where opportunities have to be seized quickly or missed for ever, anyone can always be right? We certainly were not infallible.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Test of nerve in the gilt-edged market

It has been an extraordinary week in the gilt-edged market. On Monday evening it looked as if the new long dated stock to be offered on the Wednesday (in £25 paid form) would be a sell-out. By Tuesday evening the market had slipped back enough to persuade the "stags" to give the new stock a miss.

On Wednesday morning only about half the stock was thought to have been taken up on application. Yet by Wednesday evening the market was talking of the stock being run dry the following morning, as indeed it was at a price of 26 1/32.

But that was not the end of the story. All those who could have had as much stock as they wanted at 25 on Wednesday and finished by bidding up to 26 1/32 yesterday morning were sitting on a loss of just over 14 points by last night's close. The position was clearly not being helped by those who got more stock than they had bargained for on the Wednesday morning to cut their positions and tales of a broker having to unwind a botched buying order.

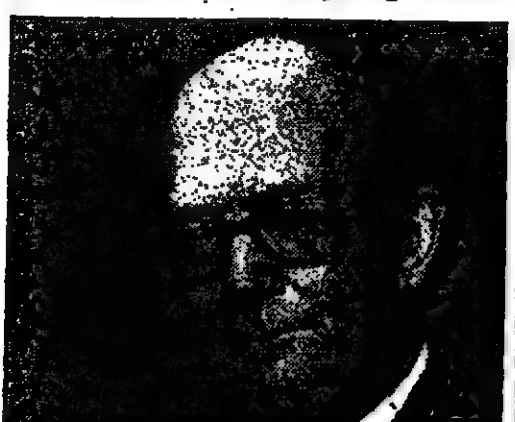
The moral of this little saga is obvious enough: Institutional investors should learn to hold their nerve rather better. Most of them never will, of course, it is not in their nature. Even so, those who did take the view over the weekend that the latest gilt rally had probably gone far enough for the moment will probably find their numbers swollen now.

Indeed, the next few days could well provide a test of the market's resilience, though presumably the authorities will at least think twice about producing yet another new stock too quickly. Yet if those overseas investors start coming again...

of the Toshiba link and the reorganization continued to show through.

Butlins continued to do well with a 20 per cent increase which would have been even better but for price controls which continued over the main selling season, while Leisure Caravan Parks was in for the first time with a £4m contribution to trading profits which is embellished by the exclusion of down-season trading figures.

There are problem areas still and in a wide ranging group like this they have a habit of turning up suddenly. This time it is Australia where rationalization, difficulties putting in new white good production



Mr. Harry Smith, chairman of Rank Organisation.

and labour problems caused a £1.4m turn down to losses of £0.6m.

Trading apart, Rank has done wonders to its balance sheet, helped of course by last year's £62.4m rights issue. That pegged back interest charges to the tune of £5m at a time of rising rates and, with preference share issue in Canada, brought gearing back dramatically from 63 per cent to 36 per cent. All this helped the shares up by 20p to 210p yesterday where Rank sells at 5.4 times earnings and yields 7.3 per cent.

That reflects a dividend up by 15 per cent at the gross level, but, for fun, one has to see the Kershaw dividend which is whacked up from 34.7p share to 124p gross as it pays out its income from its Rank Precision stake and a part of the cash it accumulated during dividend restraint. Those who rightly saw Kershaw as a cheap way into Xerox, since Kershaw has an effective 19.8 per cent stake in Rank's interests in Rank Xerox, can smile again.

Inchcape

Back on course

It was generally expected that after last year's losses at Harbora, the Dutch commodity trader, Inchcape would this year be back on course, and so it has proved. Interim profits are £31.2m, compared with £23m in 1978, and on this basis should be around £65m for the whole year. At that level, Inchcape will be trading in absolute terms as well as in the halcyon years of the late 1970s, although much higher turnovers point to lower margins.

About half of profits and turnover come from the Far East and South East Asia, and this is still the area of most rapid growth. Inchcape has high hopes for developing its interests in Malaysia, Singapore, and Hong Kong particularly, although it is also expressing more interest in North America.

But there are two problems associated with the Far East and South East Asia. One is that increasing proportion of the company's earnings will be in currencies which tend to follow the United States dollar. The latest figures allow more than £3m for currency translation losses. Second, it is an area over which some political doubts hang. The nationalistic trend is by no means spent, and Inchcape could find itself forced more and more to accept minority participations in projects. Similar provisos apply to the Middle East, currently the source of about 25 per cent of profits.

That said, there is still the security of the United Kingdom and Europe, responsible for around 12 per cent of profits. The Toyota dealership in the United Kingdom is going well, and the newly acquired one in Belgium and Luxembourg will show through in the second half.

Profits overall this year could be further improved by the virtual abolition of tax charges after the costs incurred last year from Harbora. With the dividend up 10 per cent to 10.2 gross the shares are on a prospective yield of about 7.6 per cent. At the present price of 349p, unchanged, they still look like a buy.

Washington

The avid American television viewer, addicted on the NBC channel, can see the *Tonight Show* in the late evening, then stay tuned from one to two o'clock in the morning for the *Tomorrow* programme and, after some sleep, get up for the *Today* programme from seven to nine o'clock.

America is the land of almost non-stop television, where breakfast viewing has been part of the daily diet for years. The *Today* programme has been going since 1952, is a formidable success and has been the inspiration for an assortment of several current affairs programmes in North America over the years.

Those preparing plans for news-based breakfast television in Britain will undoubtedly have studied the American experience, though some lessons they have drawn remain to be seen.

The *Today* programme usually consists of five-minute, national news summaries every thirty minutes, then several minutes of local regional news each hour and roughly nine minutes of advertising per hour. The remaining time is occupied by interviews with people in the news, some brief documentary, type news films and the odd light chat with a popular film star.

The ABC television network started a rival programme to NBC's *Today* a few years ago, called *Good morning, America*.

This has also proved a success and its only significant difference from *Today* is that it spends a little more time on lighter news items and talks with entertainers.

The third major national television network in the United States adopts a different approach to breakfast television. For many years the CBS network has been showing children the adventures of *Captain Kangaroo* from eight to nine o'clock. This is so popular that CBS cannot match the two-hour current affairs programmes of its rivals, but presents, instead, a hard-hitting one-hour news programme from seven to eight o'clock.

Prime time

Are these current affairs programmes a success? Nearly 74.5 million American households have television sets and some 60 to 70 per cent of them are switched on between eight and seven o'clock at night to watch what are popularly called in the United States "the prime time shows".

ABC, NBC and CBS are competing for audiences with an assortment of local and regional channels, but broadcasting industry figures for last November show that during the prime time the number of households switched to ABC was 13.2 million on average, with 12.5 million for CBS and 10.5 million for NBC. The figures for breakfast viewing are far smaller.

Last November's figures show

that ABC's *Good morning, America* was seen by some 3,400,000 households, while NBC's *Today* was viewed by 3,200,000. Industry analysts say that the November figure is exceptional and that NBC still tends to be ahead in the breakfast ratings. CBS is watched by about 1,200,000 households each breakfast time.

The ratings war—the battle to win as many viewers as possible for a programme—is critical because its outcome determines how much the network companies can charge for the nine or so minutes of advertising time which they will in each of the two hours of breakfast programmes. Finding precise figures is difficult. NBC, for example, often sells advertising time in packages to companies, so that one firm will agree to take several minutes in the *Tonight Show* and several minutes in the *Today* programme for a block fee.

The breakfast time rates appear, however, to range between \$10,000 to \$20,000 per minute, with NBC charging the most and CBS the least. Such figures seem very compared to charges of between \$100,000 to \$250,000 for each minute of prime time, but the breakfast shows are expensive to produce, with the annual budget for *Today* about \$16m a year and with advertising time limited in prime time to a maximum of six minutes an hour.

The cost of the morning

shows are difficult to pin down, because the budget figures do not adequately take into account the expenses involved in news gathering. The rough budget figure of \$16m for *Today* is merely "for a simple set and a few talking heads", one industry executive said.

Background

NBC, CBS and ABC all have very large news divisions, each of which will spend at least \$125m this year. These news divisions are mainly concerned with the evening news programmes, which last only 22 minutes once advertising time is excluded. The breakfast shows can draw freely on these news divisions and many television news reporters are delighted to have a chance to provide viewers with some insight into the significance of the current events and some background on key news stories. They barely get such a chance on the crammed and high speed nightly news programmes. Radio in America does not fulfil this early morning news analysis function.

It is because the breakfast programmes pay little for the services of the news divisions that they can claim to be very profitable—at least they can at NBC and ABC. Industry sources suggest that the *Today* programme is making a pre-tax profit of close to \$10m a year now.

The linkage in selling advertising time between, for example, the *Today* programme and

the *Tonight Show* and the linkage on the news side between *Today* and the *NBC News* are important factors in looking at the viability of breakfast television. One of the main aims of these programmes is to help use other resources of the networks to the maximum, while developing and maintaining viewer loyalties. The hope is that if people like the programmes they see as soon as they wake up in the morning, then they will not bother to switch channels as the day progresses.

Perhaps the most important consideration is the one that cannot be measured in viewer numbers and dollars and cents—the quality of the programmes. Both the ABC and NBC breakfast current affairs programmes and the CBS morning news are of a high calibre. They may be a little too involved with show business for British tastes, but they strive consistently to provide interesting and topical current affairs programmes. These programmes are the only daily ones in America which take more than the swiftest and most superficial look at national and international news.

The *Times* used to have a correspondent in Washington who swore that he never felt on top of his news gathering tasks unless he started his day with the *Today* programme. What better comment could be made about the quality of breakfast television? Personally, I prefer to eat my corn flakes without the background noise of the television set.

Playing the oil price guessing game

Oil has more than doubled in price in the past twelve months. In 1973/74 it quadrupled, since 1970 it has increased tenfold. The resulting damage to western economies, the strains put on the international banking system, the switch in economic power from the multinational oil companies to the producing nations, and the added instability that increased wealth has given to the Middle East, have profoundly changed the pre-occupations of the developed world.

For a time at least, the sharp rise in oil prices may have come to an end. Present production is more than sufficient to meet world demand. Uncertainty over future supplies may lead to continued excessive stockpiling, but oil storage should now be able to meet the total shutdown of Iran's production for a prolonged period.

The picture could change if the predicted American recession were very shallow; at the moment, however, it looks as though oil prices should soon begin to settle.

But where will they be in five or ten years?

Two discussion papers published by the University of Surrey Economic Department, attempt to answer the question. One by Professor George Ray, a senior research fellow at the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, argues that it is realistic to expect a recurrence of change in the oil market created by the political upheaval in Iran.

Opec, he believes, has learnt its lesson and is unlikely again to allow the world to become awash with oil as it did in 1977. It can, he says, turn the taps off if a short-term crisis like Iran occurs, the West has regained sufficient power through a broadening of the use of fuels, conservation and stockpiling, not to bid up prices by buying on the spot market.

Professor Ray sees an annual rise to 1985 of 6 per cent in real terms as his central forecast for a 1985 average price of \$50 a barrel. Dr Rowlands estimates only a marginal increase in real terms from the present average of near \$28.

"The outlook for oil prices in the medium term by G. F. Ray and C. Rowlands. Available from the Department of Economics, University of Surrey, GU2 5XH (Price 50p).

Nicholas Hirst

Technology

Teaching computers to think like us

"Artificial intelligence is concerned with exploring how far we can teach computer systems to work things out for themselves, using human knowledge and human-like thought processes."

behaviour is clever and accurate but, in the alleged interests of cost-effectiveness, they are either too deep or too shallow to be humanly fathomable.

At one extreme, the shallow end, the computer system is programmed to look up the answer to a problem (and we are considering very complicated problems) in a table or database of possible answers. The table may hold literally millions of entries—it may itself have been generated by a very clever computer programme—but everything has been precalculated.

If asked why it gave a particular answer, the system could only reply: "Because it is in the table."

At the other extreme, the deep end, the computer system is programmed to analyse all possible answers in depth and to construct a complete "analysis tree" or logic diagram of all possibilities before giving the answer. (The problem could be a complicated scientific analysis or—much used in exploring the principles of artificial intelligence—the game of chess.)

Using this "look-ahead" approach, if the system is asked why it gave a particular answer it would reply by disgorging the complete analysis tree. Since this might be based on, say, one million decision points, it would clearly give too much detail for the human mind to absorb.

Human minds had too much detail to absorb at the Three Mile Island nuclear plant last March. Professor Michie reminded his audience. One committee which investigated the accident there had reported: "... the operator was bombarded with displays, warning lights, print-outs and so on to the point where the detection of any error condition and the assessment of the right action to correct the condition was impossible."

Kenneth Owen

Business Diary: A technical hitch • Goldsmith takes the stage

Given Labour's patchy application of sanctions against Rhodesia, how thoroughly will Lord Carrington press his cold shoulder against Russia?

If he intends ending high-level and ministerial contact one of the first organizations you might expect to be hit would be the Permanent Inter-governmental British-Soviet Commission for Cooperation in the fields of Applied Science, Technology, Trade and Economic Relations.

So far there are no plans to postpone the ninth session of the commission in London in May. Yet previously there has been a good turn-out of British ministers for the occasion.

If the meeting goes ahead, one man unlikely to be seen is Vladimir Kirilkin, who led the Soviet delegation at the seventh session in London in 1978. He was dismissed as deputy chairman of the council of ministers earlier this week.

Perhaps it is as well. The formal matings of the British-Soviet Commission were unveiled at the end by an embarrassing public row between Kirilkin and Edmund Dell, Labour's Trade Secretary, over Russian treatment of the public eye was Andrei Sakharov, the fellow scientist, Yuri Orlov.

William Goldsmith (right), the new director-general of the Institute of Directors looks as if he's trying to do a Methuon, making his name and face as synonymous with this organization as Sir John has done with the IOD's rival, the CBI.

Goldsmith's launching pad is his first IOD annual convention in March. First of all he has got Sheikh Yamani as star speaker, thus guaranteeing even bigger coverage than before.

Secondly, Goldsmith—a former Black & Decker executive—is billing himself as a keynote speaker, the first time this has been done in the previous 29 years.

He will launch a forward plan under which the institute will become more of a professional body and less of a club. He dreams of seeing the 30,000 members using the initials IOD after their names, mainly by making membership contingent upon experience in business as well as education as measured by participation in IOD courses.

Lastly, as if to bid for a little of the good Sir John's thunder, Goldsmith wants the IOD to be more of a match for the CBI in meriting the ear of politicians when it comes to framing legislation—as with the new Companies Bill.

If the IOD does not bend

politicians' ears as avidly as the CBI, there is some evidence that the Tories are at least answering the IOD's prayers.

This year's conference was set for March 25, months ago, and Trade Secretary John Nott was keen to make the occasion a Tory pick. But that's now put back a day—much to Goldsmith's relief.

However, since the IOD convention was once described as the Tory Party at Work and the Church of England as the Tory party at prayer, it's rather tidy that the new Archbishop of Canterbury is being enthroned on the same day as Goldsmith makes his big public bow.

Scarborough has for many years been a traditional stamping ground for unions, and Russell Bradley, chief executive of the local council, said last night that the council wanted to see a speedy conclusion to the dispute.

The Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service made vain efforts to solve the dispute and has reported that because the management of the Crown was not prepared to cooperate with a ballot of the 30-odd workers in question at the hotel, it was unable to make any recommendations.

Unions which have decided to switch their conferences are the

National Graphical Association, the National Union of Blast-furnacemen, which no doubt has more important matters on its mind at the moment, and the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.

Bradley said that his council was reluctant to get involved in a dispute between a company and its employees.

Scarborough prides itself on offering the northern welcome to trade unionists, but until the recognition problem is solved it seems unlikely that it will be able to regain its former status as a prime venue on the union conference map.



A woman shareholder berated Trafalgar House chairman Nigel Brookes at the agm yesterday over the wretchedness of the exterior of the group's Ritz Hotel these days. Flowers and shrubs outside were dead or dying and light bulbs in the colonnade were not working she claimed. Brookes returned nimbly that before Trafalgar took over the Ritz there weren't any flowers there at all. Not to be outdone, Victor Matthews, the deputy chairman, chipped in that the lights were Westminster Council's responsibility anyway.

George Turnbull, chairman and managing director of Talbot UK, has persuaded another of his old British Leyland chums to join him in stemming losses in the former Chrysler operation now owned by Peugeot-Citroen.

He resigned from a similar post with BL Cars, one of the many who went when Sir Michael Edwardes became British Leyland chairman.

At Talbot's Coventry headquarters Whelan will join Film Paradise, now assistant managing director for sales and marketing. Paradise left BL in Lord Stoke's day.

Asked why he was rejoining the motor industry "rat race", Whelan, personnel director of Rank Hotel's British Bakeries, burst out laughing. "The motor industry is of such tremendous importance to the economy of this country that I am anxious to be a part of it again", he explained.

Business Diary's hunch is that the attraction is working in a small team headed by someone who has been given a free hand by his French masters to tackle Talbot's labour problems.

Ross Davies

Lookers Limited

Motor distributors and engineers
Agricultural machinery dealers
Vehicle delivery
Contract hire and leasing

Preliminary results for the year ended 30th September 1979

	1978	1978
Turnover	£69,211	£57,272
Profit before Taxation	2,000	1,718

DIVIDEND INCREASED BY 40%

Lookers Limited
776 Chester Road, Stretford,
Manchester M32 0QH

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Muirhead cuts payout as profits plunge

By Philip Robinson

Muirhead, the electrical and electronic components group, cut its final dividend yesterday as profits plunged from £2.1m to £1.1m, on sales up 6 per cent to £22.5m.

The group says pressure on cash has been so great that it will not stretch to maintaining the payout and finance its working capital requirements for the current year.

The gross final was cut by just under half to 2.5p giving a total of 5.712p giving 7.248p last time. The shares dropped 5.5p on the announcement to a new 12-month low at 175p, but later rallied to 223p.

The group, where the American concern Tyco Laboratories has built up a 14 per cent stake in just under three months, blames high interest rates, the engineering strike and the Iranian situation for the profits fall.

The group's major profit earners split broadly between the rotary motors side, supplying high technology equipment for the aerospace and defence industries, and the data communications, whose major product is facsimile machines used by newspapers and weathermen.

In the last two months of the financial year to the end of September, a time when output is normally at its peak, the engineering strike shaved an estimated £200,000 from profits. Increased competition also put severe pressure on margins.

Its data operations were hit by the Iranian revolution. A factory had been set up just before the Shah was deposed. The group has written off around £115,000 on this project but has recovered £400,000 in insurance.

Muirhead was also hit by competition in data. Company Secretary Mr Douglas Buchanan said: "We used to be the only people making these machines. But now there are others and it is taking people longer to make up their minds which to have."

A number of major orders, delayed in the first half, failed to come through in the second, although the group says some are arriving now.

This drop in orders meant a high level of stock being held.

The group made no official statement on current trading. Mr Buchanan said: "We are being cautious on that."

Fitch Lovell ahead by nearly 50pc in half year

By Rosemary Unsworth

Fitch Lovell, the food manufacturer, retailer and wholesaler, saw profits rise by almost 50 per cent in the first half. The group added that final quarter demand had dropped.

Pre-tax profits rose from £4m to £5.9m in the 26 weeks to October 27, 1979, and turnover increased by 18 per cent compared with the same period the previous year.

The profitability increase came from higher volumes and improved margins in most of the group's activities as well as an overall improvement in the Lovell and Christmas companies' results.

The wholesale and markets division saw a downturn from £980,000 to £798,000 trading profits because of operating problems in the dairy products operation. On the manufacturing side the UK companies saw significant profit rises although the French subsidiary performed less well.

Fitch's agricultural and fisheries operation made a small profit increase from £849,000 to £929,000 with the poultry group continuing to improve its contribution.

Key Markets stores boosted trading profit by 36 per cent to £1.7m after improving volume and increasing margins.

The interim dividend has been increased by 10 per cent to 2.13p gross.

But chairman Mr Michael Webster warned that the second half was unlikely to show the same growth as last year's when the group benefited from other distribution group's difficulties.

Interest rates have also increased and capital expenditure, which is funded by sales and leasebacks, might weigh heavily on the balance sheet at the year end.

Stock markets

Great demand for gilts but equities fade

Once again the gilt-edged mood has changed and as yesterday's business came to a close just about the only happy man was the Government broker. On Wednesday the market greeted the new long dated Treasury 12 1/2 per cent 2003/05 with indifference. Then came waves of cheerful rumour about the presence of foreign buyers and imminent steel peace.

Brokers began to fear a stampede for stock in which they would be trampled underfoot. In the event the stampede turned into a rout. Buyers of

demand at first but this too wilted throughout the day. Around £200m of the Exchequer 13 1/2 per cent 1983 was sold at £60, but at the finish it was only 55 1/2. Not surprisingly, one or two gilt-edged brokers thought there had been taken for a ride, but at least the shares in gilt edged jobber Akroyd & Smithers rose 5p to 238p.

Meanwhile, in long Treasury 12 1/2 per cent 2003/05 fell 1 1/2, and at the shorter end Exchequer 9 1/2 per cent 1983 shaded 57 1/2 to 58 1/2.

Equities began the day on a fairly firm note, aided by the strong demand for gilts, with small bouts of buying pushing prices up across a broad front. Gold shares experienced a relatively quieter time than of late as the bullion price moved between narrower levels. After opening the day at 5680 it rose to 5740 before closing 515 off at 5685 an ounce.

However, as the afternoon wore on equities began to reveal a rather tarnished look

as sellers moved back into the market.

This was borne out accurately in the FT Index which after starting the day 6.8 up went into reverse shortly after lunch to close at its lowest point of the day 2.1 down at 448.76.

Leading industrials followed the market trend closely and were mostly easier, where changed, at the close. The one bright spot among them came from the Rank Organisation with full-year profits well above most market expectations. As a result the shares jumped 20p to 210p. Elsewhere, Unilever fell 6p to 456p, ICI were 3p lower at 372p and Hawkers shed 1p to 189p. Those unchanged after earlier gains included Glaxo at 478p, Fisons at 287p, BAT's at 265p and Bechams at 125p.

Comment in *The Times* enabled Decca ord to improve 15p to 340p and 17p to 321p in the "A" while further active buying continued to boost Rascal by 13p to 224p. Dealers are still eagerly await-

ing terms for the bid although most feel that an all cash bid is now well outside Rascal's capabilities.

The delayed figures from Muirhead were worse than originally feared and over-reaction in the price sent it plunging to a new low of 175p, before some buyers at the lower level pushed it back up to 223p, a net fall on the day of 7p. Electrocomponents continued to gather ground in a thin market rising 5p to 478p. The independent Broadcasting Authority's announcement of its plans for the 1980's failed to give television shares much of a filip with LWT Holdings falling 2 1/2p lower at 105p while AAC rose 1p to 111p.

The profits setback at Davy Corporation saw a 15p fall to 91p while Whatlings, reporting a loss, dipped 1p to 21p. Ferguson Industrial was a bright spot, among companies reporting climbing 8p to 80p, a 65 per cent increase in profits along with Y. J. Lovell, 4p better at 104p and A.

Kershaw, 511 stronger at 511. The share price of Ladbroke remained flat at 348p as the company reported its expected recovery.

Armstrong Shanks lost 4p of its earlier gain at 91p as it awaited further developments from its agreed bid with Blue Circle, unchanged at 270p. Sorby's were again wanted, 10p up at 485p and this split over into Christie's International - 8p up at 160p.

Oil shares were again neglected although ICI was 8p higher at 381p on news that Cawoods

The Divisional Court hearing of Ladbroke's appeal against the loss of its West End casino licences is due shortly. Before then, some think, an approach will be made to Ladbroke from a leisure giant, indicating terms of at least asset value of around, say 175p, and possibly good deal more. However Mr Cyril Stein, has made no mention of resigning. The shares are 148p, up 6p yesterday.

had increased its stake while Siebens, a strong market of late, were 36p up at 606p after receiving permission for the development of its Bree Field operations. However, some sources believe that the share price suggests that a bid from the United States may soon be forthcoming.

Gold shares were mostly mixed with Vasil Reefs 51 up at 568 and West Driefontein 54 better at 580 while Anglo-American Gold dipped 52 to 589.

Equity turnover on January 23 was £106.684m (16,738 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Shell, GEC, Consolidated Gold Fields, RTZ, Grand Met, Lough, Rascal Elect, Lescage, Lichape, Armistage, Shanks, Plessey and Tesco Stores.

Boost for building group

By Our Financial Staff

On the back of a buoyant construction industry building contractor Y. J. Lovell boosted pre-tax profit by more than a third in the year to September 30 last.

Against a previous £1.9m the group turned in £2.6m on turnover which surged from £62.6m to £105m.

However, despite better margins on the housing side and strong demand from plant hire, Lovell did have problems with its associate company in Nigeria.

Apart from a £224,000 share of the losses, Lovell has also included a £330,000 extraordinary item which makes

provision for the winding down of the rest of its interest in Nigeria.

The timber division made a same again £350,000 contribution though this resulted from side and a profit in the rest of the division. The loss making has now been turned round.

A first time contribution from Farrow-bought from ICI of £2.25m - amounted to £400,000.

The full year dividend has been increased by 20 per cent with a final of 6p giving a total of 8.2p. The shares, which rose 4p to 104p yesterday, trade at almost 3 times earnings while the yield amounts to 7.9 per cent.

the new long stock got only half the amount they applied for; in fact they had expected to get only a quarter.

They sought to relieve the cashing indigestion with several distinct waves of selling. Out went the cheerful rumours and in came worries that MLR might not be cut at Budget time, and that gilt edged had risen too far and too fast.

Nobody seemed to know what the Government broker would do now. It has done all its funding, but it may wish to keep money scarce and interest rates high by issuing further stocks.

The long was run out yesterday morning at 26 1/2. Yesterday the partly-paid stock was 25 1/2. The new short dated stock met reasonable

Company Sales Profit Earnings Div Pay Year's

Company	Sales	Profit	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Allen (I)	3,823,299	0.21(0.28)	—	0.8(0.4)	28/3	—(2.6)
Bart Boulton (I)	22,24(19.14)	0.88(0.27)	—	3.3(3.5)	2/2	—(7.0)
Bulough (F)	47,04(40.0)	5.4(4.9)	43.2(42.4)	6.55(2.3)	20/3	10.75(7.7)
Cowan de Groot (I)	23,71(19.1)	1.2(1.0)	4.32(4.0)	1.0(0.8)	1/4	—
Derby Trust (F)	32,02(26.3)	4.35(8.32)	—	0.2(0.2)	8/4	6.7(6.7)
Edinburgh Am Assets	—	0.80(0.70)	—	10.6(7.69)	28/2	17.8(14.7)
Fitch Lovell (I)	291.8(247.7)	5.9(4.0)	7.0(4.3)	1.49(1.29)	31/3	4.0(6.5)
Greyhound Estates (I)	0.59(0.51)	0.37(0.20)	—	7.15(6.5)	—	—
Kershaw (F)	105.0(62.7)	2.6(1.9)	—	70.28(66.79)	14/4	87.0(23.2)
Y. J. Lovell (F)	105.0(62.7)	0.11(0.37)	37.1(24.9)	4.25(2.85)	2/4	3.73(4.35)
Malaysian Tio (I)	2,86(3.01)	0.04(0.03)	—	1.69(1.69)	2/4	1.69(1.69)
Macarthur's Pharm (I)	70.7(55.6)	1.6(1.8)	—	2.0(1.5)	8/4	—
Muirhead (F)	22.5(21.6)	0.9(0.2)	19.7(19.2)	1.8(1.07)	12/3	4.0(6.0)
Rank Precision (F)	43.1(42.8)	59.4(57.3)	—	158.0(158.0)	14/4	276.0(276.0)
R. Smallshaw (F)	5.4(4.3)	0.34(0.33)	6.56(6.4)	1.25(—)	—	2.5(1.78)
Strood Riley (I)	3.6(3.2)	0.11(0.22)	—	0.5(0.5)	28/2	—
Watson & Philip (F)	64.9(64.2)	2.0(1.1)	—	2.0(1.1)	13/3	5.0(2.97)
Warner Estate (F)	5.86(5.34)	1.21(1.00)	6.0(4.9)	3.4(1.37)	9/4	1.9(2.3)
Whatlings (F)	20.0(19.3)	0.26(0.36)	3.06(4.31)	1.0(1.3)	—	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a=loss.

Latest results

Watson & Philip slips by 8pc

On virtually unchanged turnover of £64.35m (against £64.21m), pre-tax profits of Watson and Philip slipped by 8 per cent to £760,000 in the year to October 25 last. The tax charge is down heavily—from £459,000 to £171,000—leaving against £589,000 last time. With earnings per share up from 5p to 7.3p, the total gross dividend is being lifted from 4.05p to 4.28p.

Mr D. C. Greig, the chairman of this Scottish-based food distributor reports that recent acquisitions will benefit operations in Scotland in 1979-80.

Watson & Philip assets reach £675m

Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society's assets, including £59m to £675m in 1979. Gross receipts showed an increase of 30 per cent, rising by 85m to £367m. Net receipts were up 88m to £278m. The society is expecting an easing of house prices in most areas and is planning a 20 per cent increase in lending this year.

Ferguson Industrial's £2.7m for nine months

With turnover 40 per cent greater at £60.59m, pre-tax profits of Ferguson Industrial Holdings jumped by 65.5 per cent to £2.7m in the nine months to November 30 last. Moreover, profits were after charging more than double interest of £917,000, against £411,000. The final outcome for the year should be up to the board's expectations.

Sperry Corporation

Sperry Corporation of New York has reported a record net income for its third quarter ended December 31, 1979, of \$68.4m (about £28.4m), up 19.8 per cent from \$57.1m earned in the comparable quarter a year earlier. Third quarter revenue, also a record, was \$1.19bn, up 14.8 per cent from \$1bn in the previous year.

Backlog of orders at December 31, 1979, was \$3.6bn, up 19 per cent from a year ago and an all-time high. Orders received during the quarter were up 9 per cent from the comparable quarter last year.

"This was the thirty-first consecutive quarter in which our earnings exceeded those of the preceding year's comparable quarter," said Mr J. Paul Lyet, Sperry chairman.

Signor de Benedetti gave no indication of the amount of dividend planned, but company sources said first estimates indicate a possible net profit after depreciation and office expenses for 1979 of about 30bn lire.

Options

Business on traded options fell from the previous day's figures of 1937 to 711 yesterday as the dull conditions in the remainder of the market boiled over.

Dealers reported little interest in the new October options which began trading with the April's RTZ was the most sought after with 166 contracts closely followed by Land Securities with 136.

Traditional options experienced one of the busiest Declaration days in quite some time as investors who had taken up positions in gold shares decided to make a quick killing.

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Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	17%
Barclays Bank	17%
BCI Bank	17%
Consolidated Crds	17%
C. Toars & Co	17%
London Bank	17%
Midland Bank	17%
Net Westminster	17%
Rossmore	17%
TSS	17%
Williams & Glyn's	17%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 15% up to £25,000 15% over £25,000 15%.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN LAND & EXPLORATION COMPANY LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF SHARE WARRANTS TO BEARER

PAYMENT OF COUPON NO. 78

WITH reference to the notice of declaration of dividend advertised in the press on 18th January, 1980, the following information is published for the guidance of holders of share warrants to bearer.

The dividend of 20 cents per share was declared in South African currency, South African non-resident shareholders' tax at 5 cents per share will be deducted from the dividend payable in respect of all share warrants bearing a net dividend of 17 cents per share. The dividend on bearer shares will be paid on or after 7th March 1980, after surrender of coupon No. 78 as under:

(a) At the offices of the following continental paying agents:

Credit du Nord, 8, Boulevard Haussmann, Paris 8.
Banque Bruxelles Lambert, 2, Place de la Reue, 1000 Brussels.

In respect of coupons lodged at the office of the continental paying agent the dividend payment will be made in South African currency in the Republic of South Africa, payment will be made in United Kingdom currency in the United Kingdom.

(b) At the London Bearer Reception Office of Charter Consolidated Limited, 40 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 1AJ. Unless persons depositing coupons at such office request payment in sterling, the dividend will be paid in South African currency.

(c) In respect of coupons lodged prior to 22nd February, 1980, at the United Kingdom currency equivalent of the dividend value of their dividend on 22nd February, 1980.

(d) In respect of coupons lodged on or after 22nd February, 1980 at the prevailing rate of exchange of the South African currency at the time of lodging, through an authorised dealer in exchange in Johannesburg or London.

Coupons must be left for at least four clear days for examination and may be presented any weekday (Saturday excepted) between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

United Kingdom income tax will be deducted from payments in United Kingdom currency in respect of coupons deposited at the London Bearer Reception Office, unless such coupons are accompanied by inland revenue declaration where such deduction is made, the net amount of the dividend will be the United Kingdom currency equivalent of 14 cents per share arrived at as under:

Amount of dividend declared	20
Less: South African non-resident Shareholders' tax at 5%	5
Less: U.K. income tax at 15% on the gross amount of the dividend of 20 cents	3
	12

For and behalf of ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED London Secretaries J. C. GreenSmith

London Office: 40 Holborn Viaduct, EC1A 1AJ. 24th January, 1980

NOTE: The Company has been requested by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to state:

Under the double tax agreement between the United Kingdom and the Republic of South Africa, the South African non-resident shareholders' tax applicable to the dividend is allowable as a credit against the dividend. The deduction of tax at the basic rate of 30% represents an allowance of credit at the rate of 15%.

MARKET REPORTS

Wall Street

New York, Jan. 23.—Led by strength in defence and oil issues, the stock market rose sharply in heavy trading.

Analysts said the defence group benefited from indications that President Carter will outline a tough defence posture in his "state of the union" message.

New York, Jan. 24.—Stock prices rose in heavy trading this morning. The Dow Jones industrial average gained seven points and advanced 16 declines better than three-point.

Analysts said investors were pleased with the tone of President Carter's State of the Union message in which he sketched plans for a five-year defence build-up and modernisation of the armed forces. However, they noted the speech held no details.

Defence issues, Raytheon added one to 8 1/8, Litton 1 1/2 to 5 1/8 and United Technologies 1 1/2 to 5 1/8.

Gold rebounds

SOLAR: Jan. 24, 1980, 645.0; Feb. 24, 1980, 645.0; Mar. 24, 1980, 645.0.

SILVER: Jan. 24, 1980, 11.50; Feb. 24, 1980, 11.50; Mar. 24, 1980, 11.50.

WHEAT: Jan. 24, 1980, 1.15; Feb. 24, 1980, 1.15; Mar. 24, 1980, 1.15.

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Commodities

COPPER was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

ALUMINUM was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

NICKEL was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

SILVER was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

WHEAT was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

CORN was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

SOYBEANS was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

COFFEE was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

TEA was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

COCOA was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

WHEAT was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

CORN was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

SOYBEANS was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

COFFEE was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

TEA was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

COCOA was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

WHEAT was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

CORN was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

SOYBEANS was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

COFFEE was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

TEA was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

COCOA was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

WHEAT was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

CORN was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

SOYBEANS was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

COFFEE was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

TEA was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

COCOA was steady. Afternoon: Cash, 1.15; 1 month, 1.15; 3 months, 1.15; 6 months, 1.15; 12 months, 1.15.

WHEAT was steady. Afternoon: Cash,

PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

9.05 am For Schools, Colleges: 9.05

Encounter (Germany: 9.25 Athens

(Invited): 9.52 Look and Read

10.15 Maths-in-a-Box: 10.35 Going

to the Moon (Interviewing): 11.00 Hyn

o Fyd (This World).

11.45 Wm and Me. For the very

young. An Apple a Day (r).

11.40 For Schools, Colleges: 11.40

Exploring Science (Colts): 12.05

pm Your Own News (Getting

started). Close down at 12.30.

12.45 News and weather.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: No-strings

necessity holidays to Australia. Also

Peter Seabrook's gardening fea-

ture.

1.45 Mister Men: the story of Mr

Jolly and Mr Noddy (r).

2.02 For Schools, Colleges: 2.02

Science: 2.35 A Good Job with Pros-

pects (Industry). Close down at

3.20.

3.20 Pabot y Cwm: serial in Welsh.

3.55 Play School. Irene Cockcroft's

story The Anything Book.

4.20 Houghlight: Cartoon.

4.40 Jackanory: Kenneth Williams

reads Norman Hunter's The Dribble-

some Teapots (r).

4.45 Taran, Lord of the Jungle.

Taran and the Vikings (r).

5.10 Grange Hill: Comprehensive

school serial. More about the bicy-

cle thefts.

5.35 The Perishers: With Leonard

Rossiter. Comedy film.

5.40 News with Richard Whit-

more. 5.55 Nationwide.

7.00 The Superstars. The women's

championship for the Ferguson

Trophy. Competing are Ann Brigh-

ton, Mary Toomey, Susan Galloway,

Sharon Colver, Jill Hamerley,

Anna Hibbs, Debbie Johnson and

Carol Thomas. From the Wycombe

Sports Centre.

8.00 My Wife Next Door. Comedy

about a divorced couple. The wife

(Hannah Gordon) threatens to ask

the husband (John Alderton) for

divorce. Comedy film.

8.30 Breakaway: Episode 3 of the

Francis Durbridge thriller with

Martin Jarvis. 11.10 The Bill: A

Ryan is stabbed in Sam's flat.

9.00 News with Kenneth Kendall.

9.25 The 1980 European Figure

skating Championships. Skating

for Britain. In Göteborg. With

Jayne Torvill and Christopher

Dean. Alan Weeks is the commen-

tator.

10.15 Points of View: Viewers' let-

ters, answered by Barry Took.

10.20 Sergeant Blibo: Phil Silvers

in another comedy about the offi-

cial sergeant.

10.50 Film: The Happy Ending

(1969). Drama of a marriage that

has gone sour. With Jean Sim-

mons, John Forsythe, Shirley

Jones, Lloyd Bridges, Teresa

Wright. Film ends at 12.45 am.

approximately.

1.00 News.

3.00 News.

9.00 News.

9.45 Inquire Within.

10.00 News.

10.05 From Our Own Correspon-

dent.

10.30 Daily Service.

10.45 The Wooden Horse (5).

11.00 News.

11.05 Women of Words (1).

11.50 Bird of the Week.

12.00 News.

12.02 You and Yours.

12.27 My Music.

12.55 Weather.

1.40 The World at One.

1.40 The Archers.

2.00 News.

2.02 Women's Hours.

2.00 News.

3.02 Listen With Mother.

3.15 Play: Black Marsden, by Mar-

BBC 2

11.00 am Play School. Same as

BBC 1, 3.55. Close down at 11.25.

5.40 pm Harold Lloyd: Excerpts

from two comedies. Lloyd's pipes are

made to a fish farm in Devon, and

to a village in the same county

where he holds a million votes in the

last election. He is made to export

fish to other countries. There is also

a discussion on the future of rural

communities and the future of the

Marley Trophy.

11.50 The French romantic

singer Sacha Distel. With the rom-

antic duo Jean-Louis and Diane Sol-

ange, the singer.

10.55 News and weather.

11.00 Friday Night... Saturday

Morning: Stimulating entertain-

ment with a variety of acts. Ned

With guests. There is also the Quiz

of the Week.

12.15 am Close down.

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Regions

BBC 1 (VARIOUS): Wales: 1.45 am

Llanelli, 2.00 am. Wales: 2.00 am

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